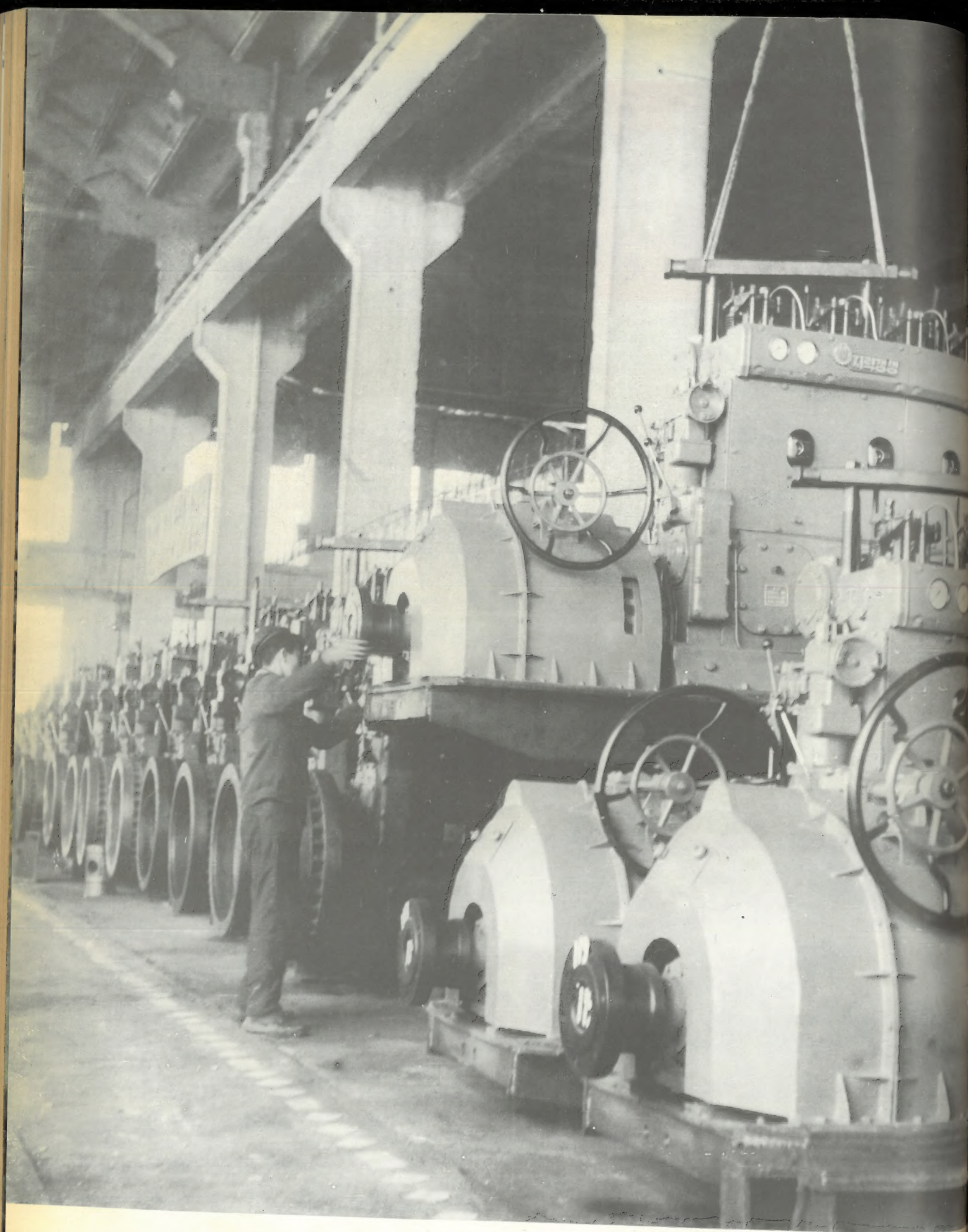


Korea Today

PYONGYANG 8 1965





Engines for vessels are turned out at the Bookjoong Machine-building Plant

Korea Today

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Pyongyang

CONTENTS

Aspiration of the Nation	2
Self-reliance	4
Machine Makers of Rakwon . . . KIM MOON GYOO . . .	10
Nationalization of Major Industries . . . RI JOO SUL . . .	13
This Is Our Plant AN JOO HYUK . . .	16
Korea's Friendship and Co-operation with Other Afro-Asian Countries	19
On the Country's Unification	21
Signalman First Class. . . PAK OONG GUL	22
Language Class	25
History Has Changed UM HEUNG SUP . . .	26
To Create New Literature and Arts	29
Again on U.S. "Aid" JUNG YONG JIK . . .	33
Land of Sufferings—Honam Plain . . . JANG SUK HOON .	36
My Visit to Korea Prof. D. BIRAN . . .	38
Best Wishes to Friends in Indonesia . . . KO SUNG SOON .	38
Korean Table Tennis Players at Ljubljana	40
Along the West Coast PAK TAI HOON . . .	41
Embroidery	44
A New Circus Theatre	45

Printed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea



FRONT COVER:
Twenty years after the country's liberation! A new generation is growing up. Here are two girls who were born in 1945, the year of the country's liberation. One is Han Ok Sil (right), the other Won In Hong. Both, middle school graduates, are labour innovators at the Pyongyang General Printing Plant, doing their shares in the country's socialist construction.

INSIDE BACK COVER:
Summer has come to the field (At the Korea-Rumania Friendship Co-op Farm, Pyungwon County, South Pyungan Province)

BACK COVER: A part of Pyongyang seen from Moranbong Hill

8

1965

No. 111

ASPIRATION OF THE NATION

It is twenty years since Korea's liberation from Japanese colonial rule of 36 years. The day of liberation, August 15, 1945, brought a boundless joy and excitement to the Korean people. And the Korean people, who had waged a bloody struggle against the cruel Japanese oppression and plunder and for the country's freedom and independence, started to build a new state, free and independent, on their beautiful land.

The people's committees, the people's power organs, were established throughout the country at the initiative of the people.

However, the road ahead of the Korean people was by no means a smooth one.

In September 1945, the U.S. troops landed in South Korea, and this has become a great obstacle to the struggle of the Korean people for building a democratic independent state.

U.S. imperialism, having occupied South Korea, forcibly dissolved the people's committees and, taking the place of Japanese imperialism, began to pursue a colonial enslavement policy. And they installed a military government in South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists did not hesitate to employ any means if it was to perpetuate Korea's division and hinder the establishment of a democratic independent government in Korea. Under U.N. signboard, they came out to set up a puppet regime in South Korea by knocking together traitors to the Korean people.

The U.S. imperialists, in disregard of the strong opposition of the Korean people, went ahead with the scheduled separate elections in South Korea in May 1948 to set up a puppet regime with Syngman Rhee, their faithful old dog, as its head.

The Korean people waged a nation-wide struggle against the U.S. plot to perpetuate the division of Korea and turn South Korea into their colony.

In April 1948 at the initiative of our Party a joint conference of political parties and social organizations of North and South was held in Pyongyang to map out a plan to foil the U.S. schemes for separate elections and for setting up a puppet government in South Korea. Turning a deaf ear to the resolute opposition of the Korean people, the Yankee imperialists cooked up a puppet regime as scheduled. Under the circumstances, in June of the year leaders of political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea met to discuss the questions of holding an all-

Korea election to establish a supreme legislative body and a Democratic People's Republic, as a measure against the division of the country and for saving the nation.

In August 1948, general elections were held throughout North and South Korea to elect the Supreme People's Assembly. And the first Supreme People's Assembly met in September and proclaimed the establishment of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. And the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was formed with Premier Kim Il Sung as its head, who had organized and led the long, arduous anti-Japanese struggle in the past.

From the very inception the D.P.R.K. Government has put forth a series of realistic proposals to the South Korean authorities for the unification of the divided country.

But in June 1950 U.S. imperialism launched a war of aggression in Korea in an attempt to occupy North Korea as well and make the whole Korea a stepping-stone for its aggression on the continent.

Thus the Korean people were forced to go through the cruel three-year long war against the Yankee aggressors.

The war played havoc with the country's economy and deteriorated the people's life to the extreme. The Korean people, however, put up a death-defying struggle until they won victory. They defended the freedom and independence of the country.

After the cease-fire, too, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has made consistent efforts for the peaceful unification of the country.

However, the unification of Korea has not yet been realised owing to the machinations of U.S. imperialism and its lackeys, and the country still remains divided when we greet the 20th anniversary of liberation.

The territorial division and national split bring untold misfortunes and hardships to the Korean people, a homogeneous nation with a long history.

The U.S. imperialists, who are hanging on in South Korea, are preventing even the mail-service between the two parts of Korea, not to speak of travel.

Thus, even today, 20 years after the country's liberation, parents and children, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, are separated in the North and the South. They do not know even whether their dear ones are alive or dead though they are

within hailing distance.

The country's division and no North-South travel cause differences in the economic and cultural life and customs of the Korean nation, the one and same nation.

The working people of North Korea who have taken power into their own hands and become masters of the country are striving to unify the divided country as early as possible, displaying creative enthusiasm and talent.

North Korea, once a backward colonial agrarian country, has been turned into a socialist industrial-agricultural state with powerful heavy and light industries.

Our heavy industry is turning out on its own almost all machines and equipment needed for all the branches of the national economy, and our light industry is meeting the people's demands for daily necessities. The firm material and technical foundation of our agriculture has doubled the grain output compared with the pre-liberation days.

Today a firm independent national economy has been built in North Korea, where the people's life keeps improving with each passing day. People are leading a happy life, helping each other, under the new system in which all manner of exploitation and oppression have been liquidated.

Then a large number of our overseas compatriots are returning to the prospering northern part of the country. These are the people who, unable to keep themselves alive under the Japanese occupation, had made their ways to some strange shores. For the past five years more than 83,000 Korean nationals have returned from Japan.

But things are quite different in South Korea, a U.S. colony and military base. Under the fascist rule of U.S. imperialism and the Pak Jung Hi clique not one iota of democracy remains, the people have no rights, none whatsoever.

Thanks to U.S. "aid" South Korea's economy has become a complete appendage to the United States. It is going headlong towards collapse and ruin.

The level of the South Korean industrial production is barely 85 per cent of that at the time of liberation, and agricultural production has dropped to two-thirds.

At present, South Korea has seven million unemployed and semi-unemployed, and more than 1,000,000 peasant families become foodless in the lean spring months every year. Still worse, a number of the South Korean people are sold off to Brazil, West Germany, and many other countries of Latin America and Europe.

If the powerful national economy of North Korea is utilized, the present catastrophe of South Korea can be overcome in a brief space of time and the South Korean people will be

able to live a happy life. Yet, the U.S.-Pak clique are dead set against the country's unification and they are working hard to bring in the Japanese militarists to South Korea to make it a twice colony of Washington and Tokyo. Recently the Pak Jung Hi clique concluded the criminal "South Korea-Japan treaty" with Japan.

Under the circumstances it is the supreme national task for the Korean people to put an end to the division of the country and accomplish the country's unification as early as possible.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has consistently adhered to the line of realizing the unification of the country by peaceful means on the no-interference and democratic principle.

Withdrawal of the U.S. imperialists' aggressive army from South Korea is the prerequisite to solving the country's unification, an internal question of the Korean nation, by the Korean people without outside interference.

We maintain that complete unification can be won when a united central government is set up through all-Korea free elections after the withdrawal of all foreign troops from South Korea.

The Government of the D.P.R.K. has proposed North-South postal service, travel, economic and cultural intercourse, reduction in the strength of armed forces, and a North-South confederation, for the purpose of expediting the country's unification.

The just proposals of our Government on the unification of the country enjoy active support from the North and South Korean people as well as from the fair-minded people the world over.

The people in the northern part of the country are accelerating socialist construction in order to consolidate the material foundation of the country's unification and relieve the South Korean people from the predicament at an early date.

In the meantime, the South Korean people are raising ever higher the flames of the anti-U.S., national-salvation struggle. They are fighting against the U.S.-Pak clique and for the country's unification.

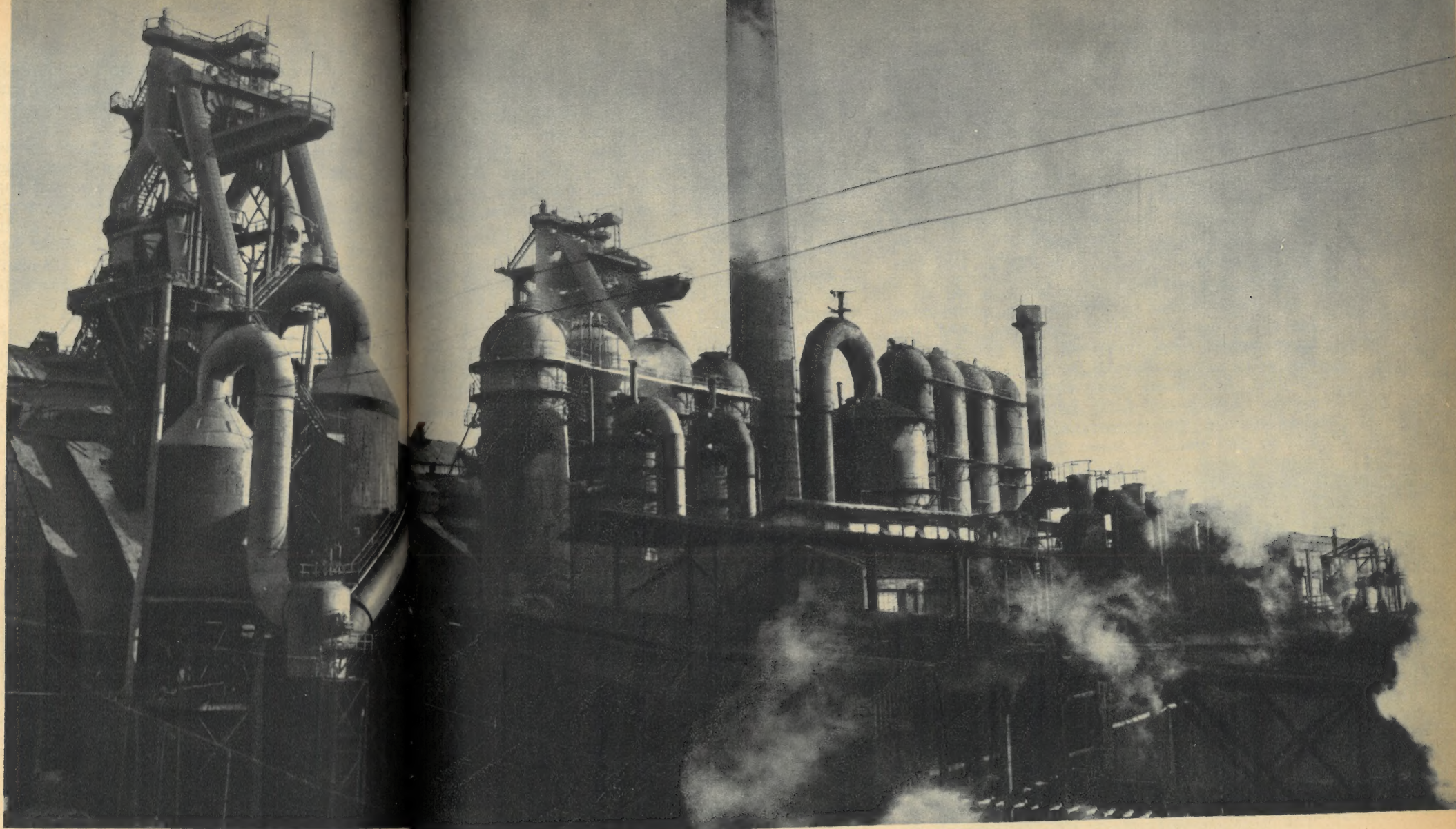
No matter how hard the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique may try to perpetuate Korea's split, the Korean people will certainly drive them out of South Korea and achieve the country's unification.

A new generation has grown up since liberation, but the unification of the country, the supreme aspiration of our nation, has not yet been realized. No more shall we wait.

Every Korean heart, greeting the 20th liberation anniversary, is filled with the determination to attain the country's unification at the earliest date so as to materialize the dear aspiration of our nation.

Self-reliance

Blast furnaces No. 1 and 2 of the Hwanghai Iron Works built on the ruins after the war



ALREADY twenty years have passed since the country's liberation from the half-century long Japanese colonial rule.

Of course, twenty years is not a long time seen against the background of human history. During this period, however, much happened in Korea. The three-year long war the U.S. imperialism unleashed played havoc with the country. Yet, the Korean people not only have rebuilt the country putting an end to the economic backwardness, an evil aftermath of the long Japanese colonial rule, but also constructed an independent economy.

Compared with the pre-liberation year of 1944 the gross value of industrial output in 1964 increased 13-fold, and the grain harvest doubled.

Between 1954 and 1963, after the war, the industrial production grew annually at the rate of 34.8 per cent. In the total value of indus-

trial and agricultural output industry accounted for 28 per cent in 1946, but the figure stood at 75 per cent last year.

To build up an independent national economy has been the economic policy of the Workers' Party of Korea. Right after liberation Premier Kim Il Sung said:

"To build a democratic, independent state, the country should, without fail, establish a foundation of its own independent economy. Unless we lay the foundation of an independent economy, we cannot win independence, build up the country, and survive."

And during the past twenty years the Korean people have converted their country, a backward, colonial agricultural country, into an advanced industrial-agricultural one.

Now all our government offices, economic fields as well as cultural spheres are run by our own people. Then the country turns out

in the main all the industrial goods and agricultural produce the country needs. Thus, with the building of an independent economy, Korea has jealously guarded its sovereignty. It has established relations with a number of countries under the principles of equality and mutual benefit, supplementing each other's needs.

Heavy Industries—the Basis of Independent Economy

In the black days under Japanese imperialist rule, Korea could not develop its national industry and, in the end, it had even its own handicraft destroyed. To be sure, the Japanese imperialists built some plants. But these plants were to produce raw materials and semi-finished goods, as they designed to

plunder the resources of Korea and bleed the people white.

There was hardly any machine-building industry worth mentioning. What the industrial equipment there was was very backward. To make matters worse, even this meagre industry of Korea was utterly destroyed by the war (1950-1953), started by the U.S. imperialists.

In the war the U.S. aggressors dumped 18 bombs on every square kilometre of the land area of North Korea. The whole country was reduced to ashes.

However, holding aloft the banner of self-reliance, the Korean people led by Premier Kim Il Sung after the ceasefire rose to build an independent national economy. The Sixth Plenum of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held a week after the

armistice, put forth the basic line of economic construction of giving priority to the growth of heavy industry along with the simultaneous development of light industry and agriculture.

Heavy industry constitutes the material foundation of political and economic independence of a country.

This line was to establish an independent and modern heavy industry which can develop relying on the domestic resources and satisfy in the main the country's needs for raw materials, supplies, fuel, power, and machinery.

In the postwar period, every effort was made to tap all hidden reserves. And the Government took measures for making investment most effective within a short span of time, i.e., small fund with the maximum benefit. And it rationally combined the reconstruction of the war-damaged plants with adding new ones. Emphasis was put on a heavy industry that can effectively serve the development of light industry and agriculture and the betterment of the people's living.

During the postwar three-year plan period (1954-1956) the foundation of the country's independent national economy was laid in the main.

As the nation started the five-year plan, the shortage of fund and materials was very acute. The five-year plan aimed at laying the foundation for the country's industrialization.

The Party and government leaders went personally to factories and mills to explain in detail to the workers where the country stood. They discussed with the workers how to tide over the difficulties, inspiring them to the fulfilment of their given tasks. Under the slogan: "The greatest production and maximum economization," the working people launched a mass innovation movement to tap all reserves. And their efforts were fruitful.

A rolling machine at the Kangsun Steel Plant, which, it was thought, would turn out 60,000 tons of structural steel at best, produced 120,000 tons; the blast furnace at the Kim Chaik Iron Works gave 270,000 tons of pig iron, while many had thought even 190,000 tons was impossible. Thanks to such endeavours of the working people, the five-year plan was completed in two and a half years in the output value, and on all items in four years.

In 1964, the fourth year of the Seven-Year Plan—the plan of an overall technical reconstruction—heavy industry turned out 12,500,000,000 kwh of electricity, 14,400,000 tons of coal, 1,340,000 tons of pig and granulated iron, and 1,130,000 tons of steel, in addition to machinery of hundred and one kinds.

Serious attention was directed to establishing a machine-building industry. Plants were built even in the difficult war days.

Machine-building factories began to go up when the war was at its height. Today they send all kinds of machine-tools to every part of the country. Then there was the nation-wide machine-tools multiplying movement which further strengthened the foundation of the machine-building industry.

The workers did not know how to go about it. Nor did they have enough tools and equipment. But the workers made tractors, lorries, and other machines after repeated failures. Today, Korea turns out on its own, in the main, generating, chemical, and metallurgical equipment, lorries, tractors, excavators, various heavy machines and equipment, and others the country needs. Last year, the country produced 94.3 per cent of the machinery and equipment the country needed.

Today Korea's heavy industry with machine-building industry as its core has become a reliable foundation of the independent national economy.

People's Needs Met

Before liberation the daily necessities industry was one of the most backward industrial branches in Korea. The bulk of daily items came from Japan.

Therefore, it was very important for the liberated Korea to build a light industry. To this end, the state built medium and small local factories along with large light industrial factories so as to increase the volume of daily necessities with small funds and in a short period.

After the war, several large-scale central light industrial factories, the backbone of the daily necessities industry, were built, and their equipment has been reinforced. Big modern textile mills, foodstuffs factories and others came into being. But, the economic conditions of the country in those days were such that it did not allow to build many such big factories at one coup. Then the Centre-controlled factories alone could not satisfy the rapidly growing demands of the people for daily items. In view of such situation, the Plenum of the Party Central Committee held in June 1958 called for launching a nation-wide movement for setting up more than one local industrial factory in every city and county, and producing articles of daily use. In response to this call, the people set out energetically to build local factories with the materials found in localities and by their own efforts.

Several months following the Plenum the country saw the appearance of over a thousand local factories and plants. Then with the help from the central light industrial plants and by their own efforts, the new factories consolidated their material and technical foundation. Among them is the Hwangjoo Textile Mill which has developed into a modern

one from a small factory with several handlooms. Today it produces annually hundreds of thousands of metres of fabrics.

Now the local plants make up more than half of the country's gross output of daily necessities. Then the country's heavy industrial factories, turning out materials and equipment for light industry, produce in great volumes a wide range of daily items by utilizing waste materials.

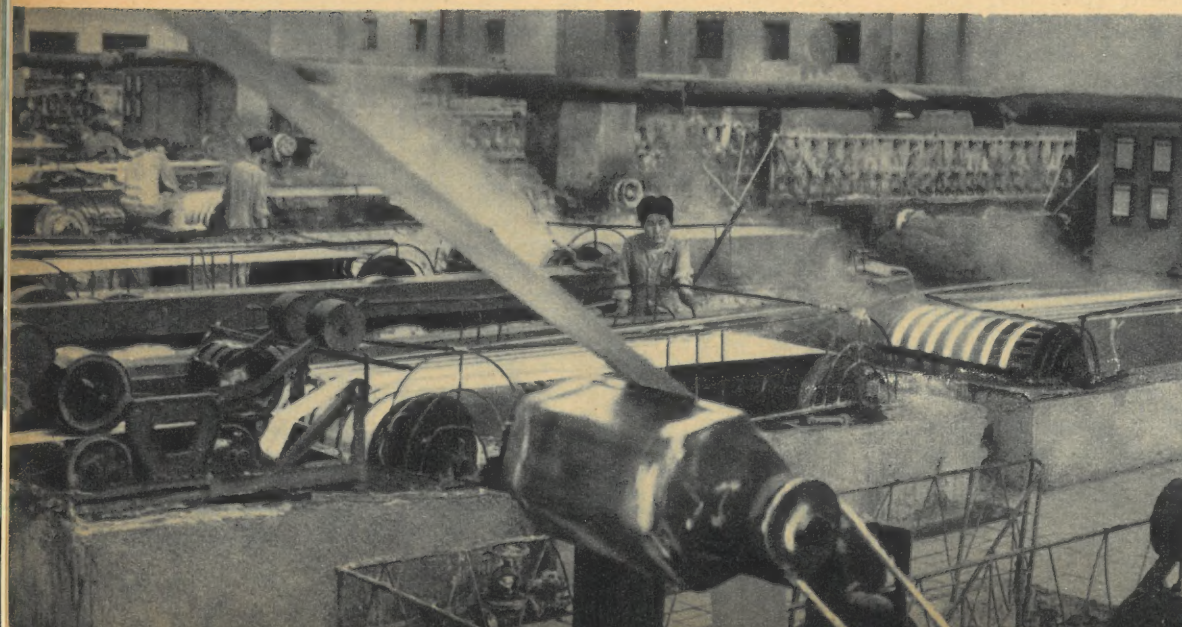
All this has boosted the output of daily necessities. Today the country's textile industry produces 25 metres of fabrics per capita of the population; it was 13 centimetres in the pre-liberation days.

During the past twenty years since liberation, the country has gone a long way to satisfy in the main the requirements of the

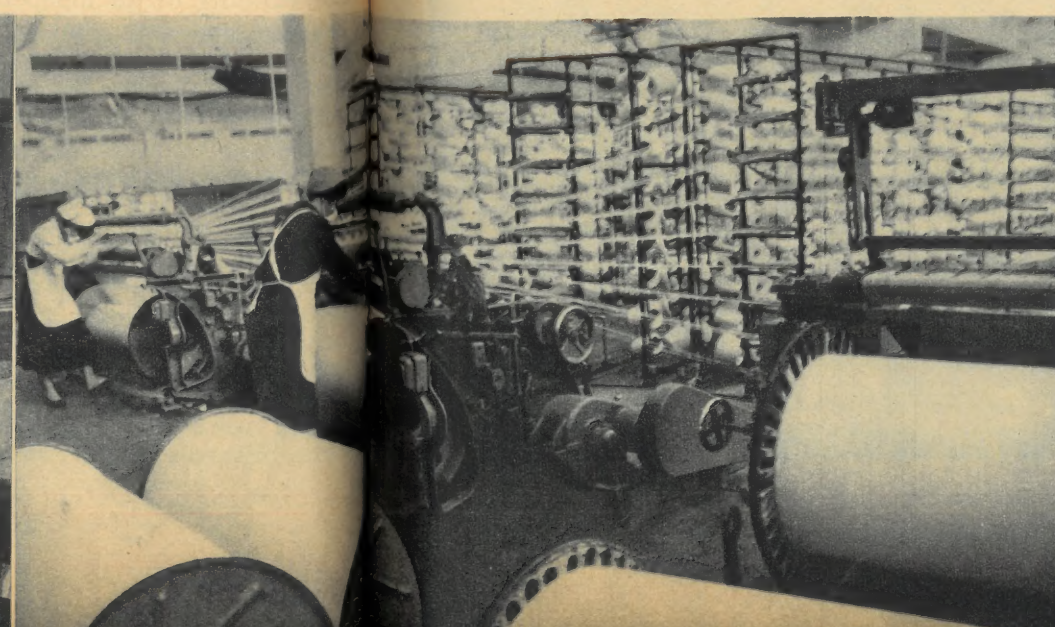
Apartment buildings in the central part of West Pyongyang



The spinning shop of the February 8 Vinalon Factory in Hamheung



The Koosung Textile Mill



working people for daily necessities with domestic products.

Freed from Difficult Work, Poverty, and Taxation

To put an end to the feudal land ownership after liberation was the most important problem in Korea, once a colonial, agricultural country with the peasantry making up the overwhelming majority of the population. To this end, the land reform was enforced, under which only tillers were authorized to possess land. All land formerly owned by the Japanese imperialists and landlords was confiscated without compensation and distributed free of charge to the peasants.

Then agricultural co-operation opened up a new path before agriculture towards the further growth. Based on the newly built socialist system in the countryside, the state has made efforts to root out the backwardness of agriculture left over from the old exploiting society, better the life of the farmers, and reinforce the material and technical foundation of agriculture.

After the war, the state appropriated a large sum of fund for giant nature-remaking projects for irrigation.

Now the 800 kilometre-long canals of the Pyungnam Irrigation System water the Yuldoosamchunri Plain on the west coast, where once drought and flood were the annual events. Then water is pumped up 200 metres from

The Yuldoosamchunri Plain in South Pyungan Province knew only drought in the past, but now it is covered with a network of irrigation canals



the Ryesung River to the Miroo Plain in Sin-kye—the place once termed as “unsuitable for human habitation.”

Numberless irrigation channels now criss-cross the whole countryside.

Thanks to the powerful heavy industry, agricultural mechanization is moving ahead at a rapid tempo. Now the country is turning out more lorries and tractors. Today in Korea there is a tractor for every 100 *jungbo* of land.

In addition to this, threshers, crushers, tractor-drawn farm machines as well as many other medium- and small-sized farm machines are turned out to make the farmers' work easier.

Chemical industry turns out every year hundreds of thousands of tons of fertilizer for the countryside, and various kinds of agricultural chemicals—insecticide, weedkillers, etc.

Electricity has driven the darkness of the pre-liberation days out of 95.5 per cent of the villages and 81 per cent of the peasant households.

The ever-swelling harvest has made the country solve the food problem that looked almost insolvable.

Based on such achievements, in his “Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in Our Country” made public in February last year, Premier Kim Il Sung put forth basic principles and measures for the final solution of the agrarian question. The principles are being translated into reality.

In the countryside the technical, cultural, and ideological revolutions are under way,

Tractors weeding the maize field



and the working class and the state render greater aid to agriculture.

The Government has built modern farm houses for the farmers at the expenses of the state.

Thanks to the measures for abolishing completely tax-in-kind within three years from 1964, a number of co-operative farms have already been exempted from taxation. Machines are doing arduous work for the farmers; they would know no more taxation in the near future.

A Great Army 290,000 Strong

The Japanese colonialists did not want to see trained personnel of Korea. In factories the Korean workers were only assigned to unskilled work, few educational facilities were available for Koreans to become technicians and experts. So when liberated, the country felt keenly the shortage of trained personnel. Right after liberation the technicians in North Korea accounted for only 0.2 per cent of the total number of employees!

Under the circumstances, the problem of national cadres was a most urgent and important one in building an independent national economy. To this end, measures were taken for making the existing intellectuals join actively in building a new society while sparing no effort for training new cadres. Indeed, the Government spent much fund in this field though the country was going through a difficult time economically and the people's living was deteriorated. The state set up many institutes of higher learning and expanded various school networks. Now the seven-year compulsory secondary schooling is in effect. In a few years the state will put into practice a nine-year compulsory technical education. Today one-fourth of the population are studying at over 9,000 schools at all levels. The younger generation is brought into able workers equipped with theory and practice through the close combination of general and technical education and of education with productive labour. Besides, many working people study without leaving their jobs. Correspondence courses, factory colleges, communist institutes and other spare-time schools are run for the workers. Now a number of the working people who were denied education in the pre-liberation days, receive secondary and higher education while working.

As of the end of October last year the num-



The day is over, now smelters of the Kangsun Steel Works are at the Kangsun Engineering College

ber of technicians and experts in North Korea surpassed the mark of 290,000.

This great army of trained personnel of Korea run all factories, mines, and offices ably.

* * *

At present the country is in the midst of the Seven-Year Plan (1961-1967), the main tasks of which are an all-round technical reconstruction, a cultural revolution, and a radical betterment in the people's livelihood.

When the plan is fulfilled, the country will become a socialist industrial state with a diversified, advanced independent national economy. Then the question of food, clothing, and housing will be solved more satisfactorily for the people.



Labour Hero Kim Seung Won (second from left) is helping others on new techniques

MACHINE MAKERS OF RAKWON

KIM MOON GYOO

AMONG hundreds of lathes installed in the Rakwon Machine Factory there is one marked with "No. 4," on which the following words are written:

"In 1950, at the time of the Patriotic War of Liberation, this machine was operated by young workers. From among them came Labour Heroes Kim Seung Won and Kang Rak Soo and a great number of machine specialists and competent government cadres and economic executives..."

When U.S. imperialism launched a war of

aggression in Korea in 1950, the Rakwon Machine Factory had only a few machine-tools. The machine No. 4 was one of them.

Because many workers had gone to the front, few skilled ones were left behind.

Under the circumstances, Kim Seung Won and other young apprentices, green as they were, operated machines to help the few remaining skilled workers in order to send more weapons and ammunition to the front. They dug caves at the foot of the mountains and removed machines there to protect them

from the enemy bombings, and continued production. When winter came, they covered the machines with their overcoats and clothes to keep them from freezing so that they could go on with production. Then, if electricity was cut off in the enemy's air-raids, they connected the belt with the car engine and operated the machines.

With the victorious end of the war, the factory too came back to its home. But everything was reduced to ashes, there was no trace of the factory.

The obtaining situation of the country, however, demanded machines, more machines. It meant machine factories had to be rebuilt rapidly.

The whole country braced itself up in the postwar rehabilitation and reconstruction, and needs for machines became only greater. Then irrigation pumps were urgently needed in the countryside.

All workers of Rakwon, Kim Seung Won, Jang Byung Doo and other young ones included, knowing that rehabilitation of the country should not be delayed even for a moment, did everything in their power to rebuild the machine factory.

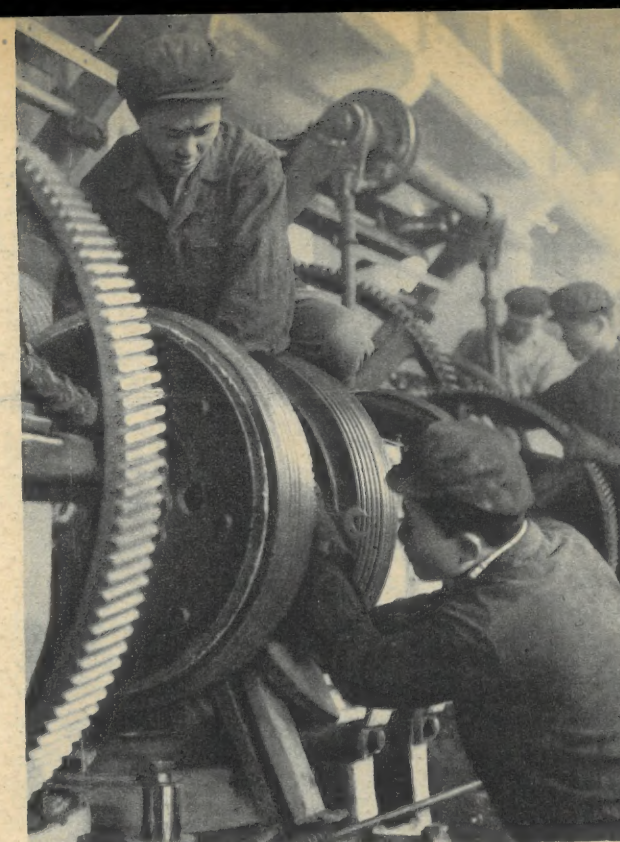
The foundation was laid on the war ruins. Then, even before the factory's ceiling was on, some machines began to move. Though the factory was a small one with a few machines, it turned out various kinds of machines needed for construction. Two years after the war, the state set forth the task of rehabilitating factories and cities as well as of building large-scale irrigation projects for the country's agriculture. Upholding this policy, the Rakwon Factory began to turn out pumps. But it was no small order for this factory.

Particularly, to cut the shafts of pumps the cutting speed of the lathe had to be raised at least ten times. And the bites they were using for the machine could not perform the job.

The young workers including Kim Seung Won got together to figure out how it could be done.

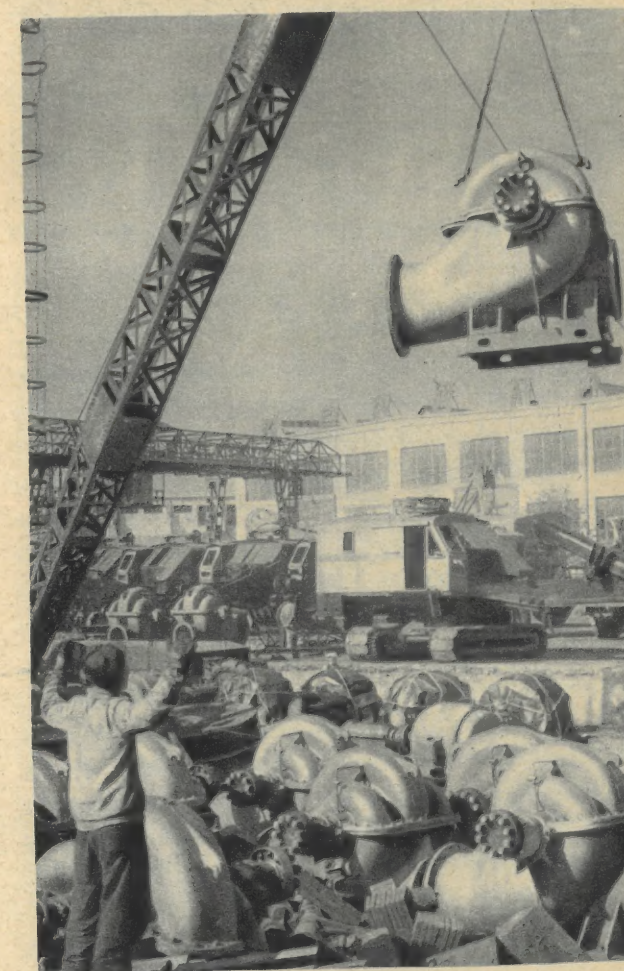
They consulted a host of textbooks and reference books. However, no book told them how the cutting speed of the lathe could be raised ten times. In short, they had to make a new tool with their own hands.

Kim Seung Won and other workers began



At the Chullima Youth Shop of the Rakwon Machine Factory

Their products are sent to various parts of the country



to work together and conducted experiments, changing the angle of the bite this way and that, until they succeeded in devising a high-speed universal bite, known as the Kim Seung Won bite.

That year the Rakwon Machine Factory turned out more pumps over and above the state quotas. The factory's capacity increased ten times!

The following year, the Kiyang Irrigation Project started, which today waters a vast stretch of land in South Pyungan Province.

For construction of the project, the Rakwon Machine Factory had to produce 36-inch and 40-inch large-size pumping machines, and the whole plant began to tackle the task. They had slogans: "A day's delay in production of pumps, 5 per cent less harvest!" "The working class should take the lead in rehabilitating agriculture!"

In the course of manufacturing large-size pumping machines, Kim Seung Won again worked out several gadgets and automatic machines, thereby raising the factory's capacity by far. The workers of the casting shop adopted a new method. To cast the 30-ton pump they used three 10-ton furnaces. In this way, every worker became a skilled one, and the large-size pumping machines were sent to the countryside in time to shoot up water.

In 1957 when the country started the First Five-Year Plan, the Rakwon Machine Factory became to specialize in the manufacture of heavy building machines.

Plans of large-scale industrial construction and great nature-remaking were afoot, and the country needed excavators badly. And the Rakwon was to produce them.

None of the workers of this factory, however, had any experience in making excavators. But they rose up as one to turn out excavators.

Some of the leading workers were shrouded in mystery about technique and conservatism, which gave a negative effect on the work. But the workers as a whole marched ahead, overcoming all difficulties. In order to turn out excavators, the workers of Rakwon made over 600 kinds of machines with their own hands.

Now the country had its first excavators. At first, the workers of the machine factory

took many days to make an excavator.

Since then the factory have produced hundreds of skilled workers and experts.

Kim Seung Won and other young workers grew into able technicians. They also studied at the specialized school and college attached to the factory.

In spring 1962, the Chullima workteam led by Kim Seung Won set about manufacturing a 4-cubic metre excavator. It was some ten years after Kim Seung Won, then he was a mere lad, learned to handle the lathe during the war time, and only seven years after our machine-building industry completed the post-war three-year rehabilitation and reconstruction and could stand on its own legs.

Now the young people of Rakwon started to work on the 4-cubic metre excavator.

It must be pointed out that by this time the Rakwon Machine Factory had produced a great number of machines and equipment for itself. However, the factory was still wanting in equipment to make such complicated machines as 4-cubic metre excavators.

They made an 8-metre turning lathe and scores of kinds of other machine-tools to process large excavator parts which weighed over 13 tons each. At any rate, the 4-cubic metre excavator was made in 100 days, and it was of course no easy job as they had to make machine-tools that they needed.

However, the Kim Seung Won Chullima workteam members cudgelled their brains to complete it within the set time.

Now the 4-cubic metre excavators which can take the place of 2,000 workhands are working at the Moosan and other mines.

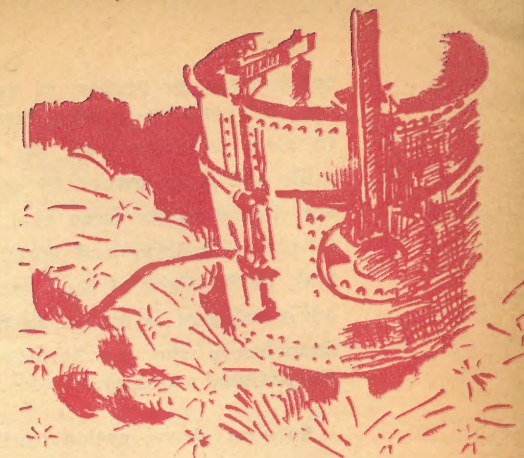
Besides, a number of excavators of different models and various kinds of building machines produced in Rakwon are doing their share in the country's nature-remaking and industrial construction.

Thanks to their painstaking efforts of the machine makers of Rakwon the country's socialist construction is going on at a fast speed. Today, their strength constitutes the great driving force for hastening the day of the country's peaceful unification.



NATIONALIZATION of Major Industries

RI JOO SUL



Before Korea's liberation on August 15, 1945, the Japanese imperialists plundered all of her treasures and cruelly exploited her people. They turned Korea into a source of raw materials, a market for their products, and a stepping-stone for aggression on the continent.

Japanese imperialism checked in every way the growth of Korea's industry.

In 1944, Japanese capital accounted for 96 per cent of the total investments in Korea's industry with the remaining 4 per cent owned by the Koreans, most of them being comprador capitalists.

Japanese imperialism also pursued a policy of subjugating Korea's industry to the economy of the Japanese islands.

In 1944, in the northern part of our country, the machine-building and metal-processing industries held only 1.6 per cent of the total industrial output. The emphasis was put on those branches that produced raw materials and semi-finished goods including mining industry. The technical foundation of industry, too, was extremely backward.

All this stagnated the productive forces of our industry, checked the independent development of the national industry, and, ultimately, ruined even handicraft industries. And when they had to surrender, the Japanese imperialist severely damaged even such backward industries.

Liberation came to Korea. And to build an independent national economy, the powerful material foundation of national independence, presented itself as the first and foremost task, if we were to relieve the country from the economic catastrophe, and if we were not to suffer again economic subjugation at the hands of the foreign aggressors.

To this end, it was imperative to nationalize major industries, the life line of the country's economy.

If the major industries had fallen again into the hands of a few capitalists, old hands at exploitation, and if they had been left to the "free competition" of capitalism, production would have been carried out almost in a chaotic manner. Moreover, if that happened, the country could not restore rapidly the destroyed economy and get rid of the centuries-old backwardness and poverty left over by the colonial rule.

If a country depends upon foreign imperialists in economy, it will inevitably depend on outside forces in its socio-political life. Unless the foundation for economic subjugation and plunder is done away with, it would be impossible for a country to eliminate an external political domination either.

If the economic arteries fall into the hands of the foreign imperialists and comprador capitalists who are in close collusion with the former, political independence that a liberated people has won cannot be consolidated, nor can the genuine, democratic development of the country be expected.

Nationalization of major industries, therefore, is the fundamental question arising in liquidating the economic foothold of foreign imperialism's domination and subjugation; it is the lawful demand of the intensifying anti-imperialist, national-liberation revolution.

Of this, Premier Kim Il Sung said:

"Nationalization of industries is an important reform in liquidating the economic foothold of colonial subjugation and laying the foundation of an independent national economy. Without nationalizing industries, neither can genuine economic independence be achieved nor a rich and powerful democratic Korea be built."

Nationalization of major industries in our country was carried out on the principle of thoroughly

confiscating properties of the Japanese imperialists and the comprador capitalists and traitors who were in close collusion with the former. Factories and mills and firms owned by medium and small traders and industrialists were excluded. This was intended to enlist medium and small traders and industrialists, in the light of their socio-economic positions, in our revolution as one of its motive powers and make them serve the rehabilitation and development of the national economy.

As seen above, nationalization of industries in our country, unlike that in the stage of the socialist revolution, was posed and carried out in the course of the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution.

* * *

Nationalization of major industries is a far-reaching socio-economic reform. To carry it out, the revolutionary forces of the popular masses headed by the working class, fully prepared and able, are needed.

After liberation, in our country such revolutionary forces came into being in the course of the fierce struggle against Japanese imperialism and its remnants, pro-Japanese elements and traitors, who were unwilling to give up their ruling positions. And the revolutionary forces were further strengthened in the struggle of the working class for smashing the machinations of Japanese imperialism and traitors who were set to destroy industrial facilities.

The struggle of the working class for smashing the schemes of the enemies, who wanted to destroy the industrial facilities in Korea, and rebuilding the wrecked industries led the people to take into their hands the factories and mills and other industrial properties owned by the Japanese imperialists and comprador capitalists.

The smooth management of industries that the people took away from the hands of the counter-revolutionaries was a question of essential significance in nationalization of industries. For, under the condition in which Japanese imperialism had surrendered, the social and political position of the comprador capitalists and traitors was extremely weak compared with the revolutionary forces, and almost all the industrial facilities had already been taken over by the people, it was, above all, important to consolidate and manage better those industrial plants that the people took over.

The socialization of the means of production demanded the working class as masters of the means of production to know the economic management—correct calculation and correct distribution.

This problem was particularly a serious one and a difficult one for our country. It was due to the fact that our country was a Japanese colony, the national industry was extremely backward, and, consequently, the country was in possession of no trained personnel. In short, the country had no experiences in running the economy.

Of weighty significance in overcoming such difficulties were the trade unions and management committees organized in all factories, mines, railways, and others.

The factory management committees were organized with nucleus workers, office employees and technicians. They were set up to mobilize the initiative and wisdom of the workers in rebuilding the destroyed industries and running the factories and mills.

And it must be pointed out that these committees played a great role in preparing the working class for running the economy. They were necessary and reasonable in view of the then obtaining situation in the country.

However, the management committees were not enough to guide the rapidly developing national economy, and a centralized organ was needed—an organ capable of strengthening relations between various industrial branches and within an industrial branch and giving a unified guidance to them.

The North Korean Industrial Bureau came into being in early November 1945. Particularly, the North Korean Provisional People's Committee formed in February 1946 put the management of industry under democratic centralism, whereas, up to then, the local people's committees and workers ran the economy.

In this course, the working class of our country learned how to manage industry and accumulated much experience.

For nationalization of major industries it was necessary to organize revolutionary forces capable of undertaking the new form of management of industries. Important in this respect was to establish a revolutionary political power and rally the popular masses around it.

Of most importance in nationalizing major industries was the formation of the North Korean Provisional People's Committee, a genuine revolutionary political power of the people, based on the United

Democratic National Front, which rallied all the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic forces on the basis of the worker-peasant alliance led by the working class.

Thanks to the establishment of the North Korean Provisional People's Committee, the leadership of the working class was further intensified in the state and social life. And the advanced workers were assigned to important posts in all fields, government, economic, and social; the leading role of the working class was raised; and the worker-peasant alliance was strengthened.

At the same time, profound attention was directed to strengthening the united front which rallied all the anti-imperialist democratic revolutionary forces. And this resulted in making all democratic political parties and social organizations act in concert in carrying out the democratic reforms—land reform, nationalization of major industries, etc.

Meanwhile, anti-imperialist ideological education was intensified among the working people to make them understand clearly the nature of imperialist exploitation and stir up indignation at the reactionaries, thereby promoting the revolutionary zeal of the masses.

The North Korean Provisional People's Committee, relying on the revolutionary enthusiasm of the masses, carried out, first of all, the land reform, the most important feature in the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution.

The land reform carried out in March 1946, besides sweeping away the reactionary forces headed by the landlords, freed the peasants from the feudal relations of exploitation and won over the peasantry, which made up the majority of the population. All in all, the anti-imperialist revolutionary forces were greatly strengthened.

Now all conditions for the socialization of key industries matured. And the North Korean Provisional People's Committee proclaimed on August 10, 1946, the law on nationalization of major industries.

With the enactment of this law, altogether 1,034 factories, mines, power stations, railways, communications, banks, and commercial firms—more than 90 per cent of the whole industry—came under the state ownership, that is, the people's ownership.

The nationalization of major industries in our country is marked with a series of characteristics.

First of all, thoroughness is its distinctive feature.

All properties owned by the Japanese imperialists, comprador capitalists, and traitors were confiscated without compensation. Such nationalization took

place in a matter of only one year after liberation as all conditions were ready for it; and it was done in one sweep, not in many stages.

This indicates that all the favourable revolutionary situations created in North Korea after liberation were utilized effectively, all the patriotic, democratic forces which could carry out the anti-imperialist revolutionary task were correctly organized in time. Moreover, it showed that the revolutionary forces organized decisively prevailed over the reactionary forces.

Next, although nationalization of major industries was presented and carried out as an anti-imperialist and anti-feudal revolutionary task, not as a socialist revolutionary task, the socialist form of economy came into being.

As has been pointed out, the nationalization of key industries in our country did not aim at liquidating capitalism as a whole; it was an attack on the economic foundation of the foreign imperialist aggressive forces. However, in the light of the fact that Japanese imperialism and comprador capital accounted for the absolute majority of the capitalist forces in our country, the attack on the imperialist forces was at the same time a heavy blow at the capitalist forces existing then. And the state-run economy which the people's power with the working class as its core took hold of inevitably assumed the form of socialist nature.

As a result of nationalization, the socialist economy came to hold a leading position in our economy. Under the circumstances the capitalist trade and industry which had been weak came to play a more and more secondary role.

With the rapid expansion and growth of the socialist economy, measures were taken for enlisting the capitalist traders and industrialists in socialist construction and gradually transforming them on the socialist line through co-operation. And the socialist transformation of capitalist trade and industry was completed in a few years after the war.

* * *

By successfully carrying out the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolutionary tasks including nationalization of key industries, a prerequisite for building an independent national economy was created. However, the nationalization of key industries was nothing but the first step toward the building of an independent national economy.

In order to rebuild the destroyed industries and increase production, from 1947 on Korea's economy was placed on the road of planned economy. But the achievements our people made in the period of peaceful construction were severely destroyed by the U.S.-ignited war.

On the ruins of war, the Korean people, however, relying on the spirit of self-reliance, built a powerful independent national economy which can make the country stand on its legs.

In building an independent national economy after the war, we consistently adhered to the line of giving priority to the development of heavy industry with the simultaneous growth of light industry and agriculture. And in building heavy industry, attention was given to those heavy industrial branches which can serve most effectively light industry and agriculture and the improvement of the people's living. As a result, in a short space of time after the war, the colonial lopsidedness of the economy and technical backwardness left over from the old society were done away with, and the foundation of industrialization was firmly built.

Irrigation, mechanization, electrification and the application of chemistry to agriculture were powerfully pushed ahead and up-to-date agro-sciences and advanced farming methods were extensively introduced to develop the intensive farming method, with the result that rapid progress was made in our agriculture, too.

In 1963 the gross agricultural output value increased by 168 per cent as against 1946, and grain output doubled over that in the pre-liberation days.

All the successes made in building an independent national economy are attributable to the fact that our people thoroughly carried out in time the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolutionary tasks and marched along the road of socialism as the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution proceeded.

In summarizing, it can be said that, when a country correctly mobilizes the revolutionary forces of the masses who awakened in the course of carrying out the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolution, and builds an independent economy along the road to socialism, it can carry out all the economic activities in the interests of the whole nation and effectively tap domestic resources and reserves.

This Is Our Plant

Manager of the Mankyungdai Textile Mill

AN JOO HYUK

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea held in June 1958 was a meeting of great significance for the development of local industry. It called for a country-wide movement for developing food and daily necessities industries and tapping all reserves in localities so as to set up more than one local industrial factory in every city and county.

A few months after the Plenum over 1,000 local industrial factories made their appearance in the country, without a big state investment, to turn out foodstuffs, fabrics, paper, and so on. In 1963 the local industry already made up more than half of the country's output value of consumer goods.

The Mankyungdai Textile Mill is one of those factories built after the Plenum.

Our mill was born in October 1958. Then there were some forty workhands altogether—housewives and those who had been with some producers' co-operatives. All the equipment the mill had was four cotton gins and eight hand-loom.

At the time when the country's economy was rapidly developing and the people's life improved with the progress of the First Five-Year Plan which was to lay the foundation of industrialization, we started to build up our mill. All this demanded a speedy advancement of light industry.

Of course, there were many large-scale central light industrial factories, but they alone were not enough to fully satisfy the ever-growing requirements of the people. Therefore, it was urgent for the newly built medium- and small-sized local factories to make rapid progress and produce a wide variety of daily items.

We set forth, first of all, construction of the buildings of the mill. As there was a keen shortage of materials and manpower—many large-scale construction projects were on throughout the country—we had to build ours on our own.

Cadres of the mill, too, took part in construction and made efforts to tap idle materials. And everyone actively came out to help the project. While this was going on, production went on without interruption.

No one had ever built such a plant, and naturally there were many setbacks. But gradually we learned, and the work went ahead.

When the buildings were finished, then workers' houses, a nursery, a kindergarten, and others were built.

At the beginning we could not hope for mechanization and automation. So, we collected hand-loom at first—those we could get easily—then we gradually equipped the mill with modern machines. We found old cotton gins, hand-loom, stocking making machines, sewing machines, and others. Then we secured accessories from big factories. Thus, our mill kept growing.

A good beginning is half the battle. We came to have self-confidence in our work.

As the mill expanded, the next question we had to tackle was one of manpower.

Under the condition in which there is no unemployment in our country, we had to have housewives for our plant. Ours is a textile mill, so it can be run by women alone. However, to make the housewives come and work, there should be created certain conditions. The nursery and kindergarten should be improved. Then it was necessary to have flexible working hours for the women workers—4, 6 and 8 hours—because they had to take care of their homes. In a few years, the mill developed into a big one with some 500 workhands.

As most of them were green hands, it was most desirable for them to acquire skills. Now the whole mill—the administrative staff and workers—made efforts to learn technique. Not a few weavers were sent to other factories for training. When they returned, all learned from them. And technique-study courses were organized. With the workers' skills improving, grading of the work-ers was done carefully, and this stimulated their ma-

terial incentive.

Meanwhile, the mill received a number of technicians.

Raw materials are an important matter for any factory. Local factories were built to tap and utilize materials and resources attainable in localities.

We organized our work in the light of raw materials that we could secure. At the same time, we collected waste materials, such as, refuse of cotton and thread from large factories and pieces of cloth and rags from every house. To this end, we assigned special groups for tapping resources and procurement of materials. On top of it, we opened some 10 hectares of plot to secure raw materials on our own. Today we are making scores of products including woolen, cotton goods, and knitted wear.

I must mention much aid the state gave to us. For several years after the appearance of local factories sales tax was exempted on those products made with raw materials found in localities; a number of able administrative personnel and technicians were dispatched; measures were taken to help these factories stand on their own feet.

"More A 1 fabrics" is their motto





Chief-engineer Choi Yung Sook (centre) is helping weavers

At long last we came to stand on our own legs. Now our mill began to improve the equipment. The production has been normalized. But, with the old equipment we could not boost the production rapidly, multiply the variety, and improve the quality of the products. We replaced hand-operated machines with

The new weaving shop



power-driven ones. Then we went over gradually from semi-mechanization to mechanization and automation.

We made lathes and boring machines with the idle materials we had collected. Large machines were manufactured with the help of technicians of big plants, and we learned the experience of others.

Besides, thanks to the development of machine-building industry our mill received a number of modern machines and equipment including automatic looms. Thus, old equipment disappeared by 1964.

We also made efforts to elevate our own level in management and technique. Officials took correspondence courses to learn political economy and technology. And workers of the mill made special efforts to acquire skills. In the meantime, a movement for more than one technical innovation was waged among the workers. Over 60 new ideas and rationalization proposals put forth by the workers were introduced into production.

All this brought about great results. The daily output of the mill went up from 100 metres in the early days to some 4,000 metres by 1963.

Today with 570 employees, over 20 engineers and technicians and more than 120 automatic looms and others, our mill turns out millions of metres of fabrics a year.

KOREA'S FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER AFRO-ASIAN COUNTRIES

The relations of friendship and co-operation between the Korean and Afro-Asian peoples keep developing.

But, until a few short years ago, the peoples of Asia and Africa were prevented from having contacts with each other by the imperialists who pursue the policy of "divide and rule." They blocked co-operation and unity of the Afro-Asian peoples.

All this belongs to the past, however. Today the "Song of General Kim Il Sung" is sung in the Asian and African continents, a "Song to Bung Karno" and a "Song Dedicated to President Modibo Keita" are heard in Korea. This shows how firm have become ties of friendship between the Korean and Afro-Asian peoples.

Their same past under foreign colonial rule and a community of causes in the struggle for fortifying independence and national sovereignty constitute the very basis of friendship and co-operation formed between the Korean and Afro-Asian peoples, who have hoisted the banner of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism.

At the banquet given in honour of President Modibo Keita of the Republic of Mali when he came to Korea last year, Premier Kim Il Sung said:

"We have the common past, common ideal and common enemy." Such commonness unites firmly the peoples in these two continents on the common front against imperialism and colonialism.

The Korean people consider it their internationalist duty to consistently strengthen friendship and solidarity of the Afro-Asian peoples so as to reinforce the anti-imperialist, revolutionary forces. They have energetically supported the struggle of the peoples for winning and consolidating national independence and freedom.

In recent years, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea established diplomatic relations with Guinea, Mali, Algeria, the

United Arab Republic, Indonesia, Cambodia, Mauritania, the Congo(B), Ghana, Uganda, the Yemeni Arab Republic, Tanzania, and other countries in Asia and Africa; it maintains consular and trade relations with many other countries.

Particularly, visits and contacts of leaders of Korea with the leaders of various Afro-Asian countries have cemented the relations of friendship and co-operation. There have been many events of great significance: the state visit of Premier Kim Il Sung to Indonesia in April; visits of President Modibo Keita of the Republic of Mali and President Sukarno of the Republic of Indonesia to Korea last year; visit of Choi Yong Kun, President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, last year to the United Arab Republic, the Algerian Democratic and People's Republic, the Republic of Mali, the Republic of Guinea, and the Kingdom of Cambodia; visit of Chairman Choi Won Taik of the Supreme People's Assembly and his party to South Asian countries last year.

The Korean people highly praise the achievements scored by the peoples of the Afro-Asian newborn states in putting an end to the aftermath of colonial rule and creating a new life, and extend energetic support and encouragement to these peoples in their bold struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

To fight various forms of aggression of imperialism and reaction is the first and foremost task of the Korean and other Afro-Asian peoples. The American-led imperialist, reactionary forces that are set to quench the common ideal of the peoples of the two continents, are working to extinguish the flames of the national-liberation struggle and chain the peoples of the newborn countries to colonial slavery again.

The U.S. imperialists that occupy South Korea and other areas of Asia are working

like mad to escalate their criminal, aggressive war in South Vietnam; they are threatening the peace of Laos and sovereignty of Cambodia. And the Anglo-U.S. imperialists are threatening the independence of Indonesia with "Malaysia." The neo-colonialists led by U.S. imperialism have committed armed intervention in the Congo (L) and launched the colonial wars in many areas of Africa, brutally slaughtering the people who have risen up for freedom and independence.

All this reveals that the imperialists are desperate in propping up their tottering colonialist system. But the peoples answer every aggression of the imperialist, reactionary forces with a resolute struggle.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people extend full support and encouragement to the struggle of the Afro-Asian peoples who have risen up to achieve national liberation, fight imperialism and old and new colonialism, and to build up independent countries. They rejoice over the successes these people have scored like their own.

In return for this, in their just struggle for making the U.S. aggressive army leave South Korea and unifying their country with no outside interference, the Korean people enjoy the unanimous support of the Afro-Asian peoples. The struggle of the Korean people to overthrow the U.S. colonial rule in South Korea and accomplish the country's unification is a link in the common struggle of the entire Afro-Asian peoples against imperialism and colonialism.

Those Afro-Asian government heads who held talks with the Korean leaders expressed enthusiastic support to and firm solidarity with the just stand of the Government of the D.P.R.K. on the country's unification without any outside interference.

The support and encouragement the Afro-Asian peoples extend to the just struggle of the Korean people constitute another hard punch to the U.S. imperialists that occupy South Korea and hamper Korea's unification.

We the Korean people, together with the Afro-Asian peoples, consider all the military bases and troops of the imperialists in these parts of the globe constitute the flagrant encroachment upon sovereignty of these countries and menace to freedom and world

peace. Consequently, they demand that all foreign troops should withdraw without delay and all questions be settled by the peoples themselves.

All this stems from the firm determination of the Korean and Afro-Asian peoples to march shoulder to shoulder in the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist struggle.

United under the banner of anti-imperialist struggle, the Afro-Asian peoples help each other in developing their economies and cultures.

At the Asian Economic Seminar held in Pyongyang last summer with the participation of representatives from 34 countries, views were exchanged on a series of questions on the economic developments in the Afro-Asian countries.

The seminar made an important contribution to developing the relations of economic co-operation among these countries on the principle of equality and mutual benefit.

The technical and economic co-operation between Korea and these states keeps growing too. The relations of friendship and co-operation have been developing in form and scope.

Past few years witnessed the visits to Korea of parliamentary and government delegations, political and social figures, delegations of friendship associations and youths, writers, journalists, artists, sportsmen, entrepreneurs and other representatives of all walks of life from the various countries of Asia and Africa. Then Korea's parliamentary and government friendly delegations, trade delegates, art troupes and various other delegations went to these countries.

Despite the split policy pursued by the imperialists and their puppets, friendship and solidarity have been cemented and developed among the peoples of these areas of the world. The old trick of the imperialists to set the Afro-Asian peoples against each other has been shattered.

The Korean people cherish friendship and solidarity with the Afro-Asian peoples. In the future too, they will fortify militant solidarity with the friends of the Afro-Asian countries in every way and march hand in hand with them in the common struggle against imperialism and colonialism.



On the Country's UNIFICATION

QUESTION: What is the prerequisite for solving the question of Korea's unification?

ANSWER: After World War II, the United States, which splitted Korea with its occupation of South Korea, set to turn South Korea into not only a colony but a base for aggression on the continent. To this end, it set up in 1948 the separate puppet government in South Korea in its attempt to perpetuate the split of Korea and oppose Korea's unification without outside interference.

Having laid down its clear unification line—no outside interference, democracy, peaceful means—the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has made every sincere effort for putting an end to the country's division. Time and again it proposed reasonable plans for the gradual accomplishment of peaceful unification with no outside interference through a series of intermediary steps: economic and cultural exchange and co-operation, confederation of the North and the South, and so on.

But none of these measures has been translated into reality because of U.S. objection. The U.S. imperialists even stopped the foodless peasants and storm and flood victims in South Korea from receiving relief goods from the people in the North.

Washington is against Korea's unification without foreign interference and North-South contact and negotiation. All this is designed for permanent U.S. occupation of South Korea and turning it into a colony and a military base.

The U.S. imperialists and their henchmen are brutally suppressing the struggle of the South Korean people for unification.

They forbid even discussions on the country's unification; and anyone who utters the word "unification" is punished harshly.

Nothing could, however, stop the struggle of the South Korean people.

The Syngman Rhee puppet regime, a thorough U.S. hireling and arch traitor, was brought down by the people who rose up in the April 19 Uprising (1960); Syngman Rhee fled to America. South Korean people's struggle for unification of the country intensified. It seemed the North-South contact and negotiation were imminent.

Now the U.S. imperialists were frightened. Hurriedly they inspired Pak Jung Hi and his company to stage the military coup (May 16, 1961). This was intended to crush the people's struggle with the bayonet.

When the June 3 Uprising against the "South Korea-Japan talks" and the reliance on outside forces became furious, and the military regime was a candle flickering in the wind, the U.S. imperialists mobilized the South Korean puppet army to suppress the patriotic youths and students and the people.

Now the U.S. imperialists are bringing the Japanese militarists, the sworn enemy of the Korean people, into South Korea, in the hope of averting their crisis in the colonial rule and creating obstacles to Korea's unification. Washington is working to use the Japanese militarists as its "shock brigade" for U.S. aggression on Korea and the Far East.

All this points to one thing. U.S. occupation of South Korea only threatens the peace of Korea and the Far East and hinders Korea's unification.

So long as U.S. imperialism—the international gendarme and strangler of national independence and liberation—occupies South Korea, the peaceful unification of Korea allowing no external interference cannot be accomplished.

Therefore, the withdrawal of the U.S. army from South Korea is the prerequisite for solving the question of Korea's unification.

SIGNALMAN FIRST CLASS

PAK OONG GUL

It seemed the whole ridge was veiled in a mist from the intense enemy fire. Some of the gasoline drums that the enemy had dropped were still flaming in the valley. The air was choking—dirt and powder smell, then the smoke. You could hardly open your eyes.

Nam Kil, the signalman, made his way to battalion headquarters, almost groping his way, after fixing the severed communication lines. Now and then bombs burst around the headquarters, sending up high posts of dirt in the mid-air.

He jumped in the passage tunnel, suddenly he felt his legs giving away. Evidently the feeling of safety—now he was in the battalion headquarters—overcame him. He just sank to the ground and sat there as if he had not a thing to do. He breathed the fresh air as if a person would drink after a long thirst. No more was he choking.

It was sometime before he rose to his feet with the help of the trench wall. Then he thought of the "air-stunt" he had a few minutes ago. He was coming along the mountain waist. Suddenly there was an enemy bomb to make him perform an involuntary somersault. He checked himself if he was not hit by a sharpnel. But he seemed all right, except a few big holes in his uniform. His tools and a few spare lines were hanging to his belt as they should. So everything was alright, he said to himself. Even his dimple showed as he thought this way.

Since the battalion came here—that was three days ago—he had made some 70 repairs of the line in the rain of enemy bombs and shells. And without a scratch, too! Now he grinned broadly, he felt good. No matter how desperate the enemy were, it seemed, they could not do any harm to him. He thought of the conversation he held with the army surgeon before leaving the field hospital. There was the new battle news and he just refused to stay in hospital. The army surgeon warned him of malaria he had infected, saying that he would have a fever the following day. But the expected fever did not come. He was sure now he could go on, say, ten days, even if he may not have a drop of water in the sea of fire. He looked around. There had been pines and flourishing vines before, but now all he could see was "a sand field" about knee-deep. To be sure, there still stood pines here and there, but all were torn and scarred by shells and bombs. They were singed. Shells were still hitting the trees. He grumbled: Bastards! Go and shoot. There is a plenty of dirt yet!

When the enemy shelling is over, there would be

another air raid, then another offensive.

During the past few days the enemy attempted to climb up the ridge over thirty times, this morning alone ten times. They came in waves. When the first wave is broken, the second one came, then the third...

The telephone lines between the battalion and the company had to be kept open all the time. The battalion had to be kept informed constantly by the company of the enemy's movements. Then the battalion directed the company's fire, it sent ammunition and hand-grenades and reinforcements to it. Nam Kil remembered the habitual words of the battalion C.O.

"Communication lines are the nerve system of the army."

He removed the receiver and, holding it in his hand, he went into the trench. There was a dim light, but the place was too dark for him who had just walked in from outside.

Blinking, he tried to focus his eyes. Suddenly there was a voice.

"Well, how did it go?"

It was the battalion C.O. Now he could see his full face by the dim light.

"Battalion Commander, Li Nam Kil, Signalman First Class, reporting. The lines are fixed."

No sooner had he finished his reporting than he was rebuffed. "What do you mean fixed? The lines are cut." That was the adjutant of the C.O. Now the exultant feeling that Nam Kil had entertained a minute ago was gone. He had to swallow the bitter pill of a signalman's lot—it does not matter how many places you fix, but, if the line is not open because of one single cut, then they will give it to you. And thick too!

Nam Kil did not know what to do with himself, he just stood there. In one corner someone was trying to get "River Rakdong." He was yelling at the top of his voice "River Rakdong, River Rakdong." It was the platoon leader's voice. "Rakdong" was the code name for the company, to which the telephone line Nam Kil—at least he thought he had—fixed.

But the C.O. was sympathetic. He told Nam Kil, who was feeling awkward, to say the least, he may be excused. Then the C.O. turned to an orderly before him and asked him something.

Nam Kil went over to the platoon leader, who was still calling "Rakdong." And the elderly-looking soldier, just assigned to the signal section, extended his big hand to grab Nam Kil's. And Nam Kil felt very thankful at his thoughtfulness. In a flash Nam Kil thought the new man reminded him of his good uncles back home.



The adjutant was still shouting racing back and forth, then took over the receiver from the platoon leader. As if to outmatch the platoon leader's voice, he yelled into the speaker—"Rakdong." Evidently, no response. So irritated at the silence, he hurled down the receiver and grumbled:

"The communication is dead. And our company is going to pieces. Four hours there has been no word."

It was obvious he was not talking to himself. It meant for others, particularly the signalmen, to hear. Then, as if to drown the adjutant, the platoon leader shouted louder: "Rakdong, Rakdong!" Looking at him—he had his right arm in bandage, hollowing at the top of his lung into the speaker—Nam Kil felt bad. The adjutant, as if he could stand no more, stepped out. Presently the platoon leader, putting down the receiver, said in a gentle voice that was enough of trying.

Nam Kil was so touched at the kind words of the platoon leader. Tears came to his eyes.

Suddenly there was a bomb blast outside the trench. It was a close one, Nam Kil thought. Dirt fell from the ceiling, and the light went out after a little flickering. The big trench became dark—there was an awkward silence for some time.

There was the thick voice of the battalion C.O. who was listening to a report on the company. "How much is there ammunition left?"

"There are 20 hand-grenades and two cartons of shells. The company C.O. was saying that the enemy

might try again, so please hurry with reinforcement. Maybe in half an hour."

"What is the news of Company I?"

He wanted to know how the units were doing. Nam Kil felt as if his words were directed at him.

"I'm not sure. Somehow the enemy are hitting at this side today."

After the orderly was dismissed, the C.O. lit up a cigarette and asked the platoon leader if there was any news from Company I. "No!" was the answer of the much-troubled platoon leader. Then he added—perhaps they should send another orderly.

Presently an orderly—the fifth one—was sent out. After he was gone, Nam Kil rose to his feet quietly.

"Well, platoon leader, I guess I'll go out, too."

"Oh, no. You won't. You'd better take a little rest now. You look kind of pale. Wait until the orderly comes back."

"I know you sent an orderly out. But I've to fix the lines."

Nam Kil was nineteen. But, maybe because of his uniform he looked sharper and more dependable. The platoon leader tried to stop him.

"No, I think you'd take it a little easy. You've been out more than seventy times. But what are other signalmen doing? The first company too has two men, doesn't it?"

That was the battalion C.O., to whom the platoon leader answered:

"Both of them got wounded."

Nam Kil sat down again. Again everyone was silent. The battalion C.O. kept puffing at his cigarette—a smoke of rolled leaves. One smoke after another he had in a chain. And Nam Kil knew he did that when he was nervous.

Exhausted as he was, Nam Kil could not fall into sleep. Only he was leaning against the wall with his eyes closed. He thought he was hearing a sound. His ears kept ringing. He opened his eyes to check if there was really a telephone signal. Again he closed his eyes. He could see the smoke covered ridge, electric poles cut in half, then his mother who, they said, had become a guerrilla.

Suddenly there was a call in a low voice, "Nam Kil." He found the elderly looking new soldier standing before him. The soldier had been a stretcher carrier, but the previous day he was made a signalman. He hailed from the same village where Nam Kil came from—Kwangyang in Julla Province. This made the two men feel closer to each other. On top of it, the man knew about Nam Kil's mother who was alone in the village. The new soldier was around forty; he had been a farmer and Nam Kil liked him for his simplicity. Nam Kil thought he looked like his many uncles and neighbours who raised him.

"What's up?"

"I think I'll go and have a look this time."

Deliberately he spoke in a low voice, he didn't want others to hear him. Nam Kil told him it would do little good since he did not know how to connect the broken lines. Nam Kil recalled. The soldier had asked him to take him, but Nam Kil didn't because the bombing was severe to start with, and he didn't see why he— he had been just sent to the unit—should take the risk. That was not all. Nam Kil felt a stronger attachment to him and he wanted to spare him as much as he could. But the fellow did not like the idea too well.

"I can learn, can't I? You don't think much of me, do you? At the time of the Ryusoo uprising I did my share. I did shooting, too. I feel I am just sitting on pins and needles to be couped in here at difficult times like these."

He was quite determined, too. He was on feet by this time, ready to go. And Nam Kil knew he could not be persuaded to be still in the trench. Then, Nam Kil also knew nothing is more miserable for a uniformed man to have no assignment at the front while all others are fighting the enemy. So he took up the matter with the platoon leader and decided that the fellow should be sent out. Nam Kil gave a few tips on how to connect the lines besides the distribution of the telephone lines.

He explained. To be on the safer side every line is tripled, that is, there are three in one. And these three lines are linked together many places, so even the enemy bombs cut one or two, the remaining lines can be connected, and the messages will go through. He also explained to him about the precautionary measures he should take in the enemy raid. The fellow was much older than Nam Kil, maybe the latter's father's age,

but, feeling so uneasy, he told him the same thing a couple of times.

At the trench entrance Nam Kil watched him go. As soon as he came back to his place, Nam Kil put on the receiver. He knew it would take at least thirty minutes before anything could happen, but simply he could not just sit and wait. He thought he could see the new man looking for the broken lines in the rain of enemy bombs and shells. Then he recalled what the fellow told him about his mother and the village.

Come to think of it, it was the following spring after the Ryusoo uprising that he left home. When the uprising was over, his father with his comrades went into Mount Jiri to wage a guerrilla warfare against the enemy. At home Nam Kil and mother were left. But the police were after them. The beastly torture! The enemy punished his mother saying she was hiding the whereabouts of her husband, then Nam Kil for being his father's errand boy.

Many scenes of the enemy's savage torture came to his mind. But the worst of all was what the enemy did to his mother. An electric shock treatment. They wired two thumbs of her mother and charged electricity. From the powerful electric current muscles of his mother's both arms made sporadic movements. And they did all this before his eyes. But, ever since he was kind of used to this. At any rate, she and he both pulled through. In the end they were released. Yet, the enemy would not leave them alone. The police and terrorists raided their house so often, and they took Nam Kil to the police station almost every other day.

One fine spring day, Nam Kil was on the way home, as usual, from the police station. When he reached the pass before his village he found his mother waiting for him in a corn field. They both wept whole day in the field. In the end, mother said he should go away some place. Sea-gulls were flying in the distance over the South Sea and whistles of the boats left a long echo of melancholic tone.

It was in the evening that he left home. Mother had a little lunch package prepared for him. He took a night train for Seoul.

He knew no one in Seoul, but, since it is a big place, Nam Kil thought he could find some work and live a "peaceful" life without being taken regularly to the police station.

He was a longshoreman in Inchon, a porter in Seoul Railway Station, a trainee at an iron works... When the People's Army liberated Seoul, he joined the volunteer corps.

According to the man, mother was on the retreat together with others but went into the mountains. Nam Kil thought. Now presumably she is among Taibaik mountains, where he is in too. Only she is in the southern end, and he at the northern side.

Nam Kil doubted she could be a combatant. Just the same, he wondered if she could withstand the difficult night march and the cold winter.

(To be continued)



"Better quality" is their motto. Weavers of the Pyongyang Silk Mill discussing about improvement of the quality of their products



The traditional Korean painting "Mt. Keumgang" (1965) by Jung Yung Man (On display in the State Art Gallery)



A hen-shaped stone inkstand

HANDICRAFT WORKS

Korea's handicraft works have a long history and the fine workmanship is known widely. Here are some works produced in recent years



A bamboo octagonal candy box

Mother-of-pearl-inlaid fruit tray



A metal vase



A doll

LANGUAGE Class

당신은 공원으로 가지 않겠습니까?
dangsineun gongwoneuro gaji anketseupnika?
you to park go will not

Won't you go to the park?

가겠습니다. 같이 갑시다.
gagetseupnida. gati gapsida.
(I) will go together let's go

I'll go. Let's go together.

당신은 언제부터 언제까지 휴가를
dangsineun unjebootu unjekaji hyoogareul
you form what time till when vacation

받았습니까?
badatseupnika?
received

From what time and how long is your vacation?

어제부터 래주 토요일까지 받았습니다.
ujebootu rajoo toyoilkaji badatseupnida.
from yesterday next week till Saturday received

It is from yesterday till next Saturday.

보십시오. 연못 속에 꽃이 피었습니다.
bosipsiyo. ryunmot soke kochi piyutseupnida.
look pond in flower bloomed

Look, the flowers have bloomed in the pond.

아 참으로 아름답습니다!
a chameuro areumdapseupnida!
Oh! really be beautiful

Oh! It's really beautiful!

숲속에서 새들이 지저칩니다.
soopsokesu mootsaideuli jijugwipnida.
in the wood many birds chirp

얼마나 아름다운 목소리들입니까!
ulmana areumdaon moksorideulipnika!
how beautiful are voices

Many birds are chirpping in the wood. How sweet their songs are!

마치 새들이 합창을 하는것
machi mootsaideuli hapchangeul haneungut
as if many birds chorus like doing

같습니다.
gatseupnida.
seems

It seems as if many birds are singing in chorus.

저 숲속에서는 무슨 나무가
ju soopsokesuneun mooseun namooga
that in the wood what tree

자랍니다?
jarapnika?
grow

What trees grow in that wood?

소나무, 참나무, 밤나무,
sonamoo, chamnamoo, bamnamoo,
pine tree oak tree chestnut tree
그 밖에 여러 가지 나무가 자랍니다.
geu bake yuru gaji namooga jarapnida.
besides many kinds tree grow

There grow pines, oaks, chestnuts, and many other kinds of trees.

나는 이 곳이 마음에 듭니다. 휴가
naneun i gosi maeume deupnida. hyooga
I this place to heart fit vacation
기간을 나는 이곳에서 보내고 싶습니다.
giganeul naneun igosesu bonaigo sipseupnida.
period I here spend want to

I like this place. I want to spend my vacation here.

Explanations:

1. In mootsai 못새, moot 못 is a prefix meaning "many". sai 새 is the root of the word.

Ex: 못별 못사람
mootbyul mootsaram
many stars many persons

And in goonsori 군소리, goon 군 is a prefix meaning "non-essential." Sori 소리 meaning "sound" or "voice" is the root of the word.

Ex: 군말
goonmal superfluous words

2. An exclamative sentence in the Korean language has no special form of its own.

An exclamative sentence is formed, mainly, with adverbs, and, if no adverbs occur, exclamation is expressed by the rise of the voice in the beginning of the sentence and the fall in the end.

참으로 아름답습니다.
Ex: Chameuro areumdapseupnida.
really be beautiful

How beautiful it is!

Compare with an interrogative sentence in which the sentence starts in a low voice but ends in a raised voice.

얼마나 아름답습니까?
ulmana areumdapseupnika?
how is (it) beautiful

How beautiful it is!

3. The form of comparison which is used most frequently machi... 마치, gwa 과, wa 와,
gatseupnida 같습니다

Ex: 아름답기가 마치 꽃 과
areumdapgiga machi kot gwa
being beautiful as if flower with

같습니다.
gatseupnida
resembles

It is as beautiful as a flower.

1). 마치 and 과 in the above sentence can be omitted.

2). 과 and 와 take place according to the last sound of the previous word, namely, 과 with a consonant, and 와 with a vowel.

Note:

3). In gatseupnida 같습니다 gat 같 is the root of the word.

It can conjugate: gatseupnida 같습니다,
gatda 같다, gateuni 같으니, gatgo 같고,
gati 같이.

History Has Changed

UM HEUNG SUP

It was a nightmare. Sixty years ago, Japanese imperialism started the invasion of Korea on the strength of the "1905 protectorate treaty." From Korea they took away all the treasures of the land, extinguished every spark of national culture, and denied all rights and freedom to the people of Korea. And our people had groaned under Japanese colonial rule for 36 years. Today, however, only 20 years after the Korean people were freed from the dark rule of the Japanese imperialism, the Pak Jung Hi clique of South Korea and the Japanese militarists have signed the "ROK-Japan treaty," the second "1905 treaty."

There is little difference between today and 60 years ago as far as South Korea is concerned—60 years ago, the year of Eulsa in the Korean calendar when the infamous traitor Ri Wan Yong concluded the traitorous "1905 protectorate treaty" with the Japanese government.

I look back with burning indignation on those gloomy days when the Korean people groaned under the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism for nearly half a century.

To recall it, I spent my childhood in a village on the Rak-dong River.

In our village there was a big farm called the Yamamoto Farm, a farm owned by a Ja-

panese named Yamamoto. And its area was, it seemed, endless.

No one knew who had installed him with such authority, but he dragged out the villagers to climb up the mountain behind the village and cut down big pine trees. He had several large storehouses and a rice-mill built, and a well sunken.

Yamamoto was busy surveying the farm land, and, before you knew it, his landholding swelled to over 1,000 hectares, as he grabbed good land piece by piece.

Helpless, the peasants in the village became his hire-hands.

Our family had then a small piece of land. But soon it became the property of the Yamamoto Farm. So our family, too, began to work for Yamamoto.

It seemed Yamamoto was never wanting in excuses for taking away land of the Koreans. And, if he had to buy it, he bought it for an old song! Not that Korean peasants took everything lying down. Then Yamamoto had the police on his side.

Next to us lived Uncle Pak, who refused to give away his land when Yamamoto demanded. He was taken promptly by the Japanese police, beaten black and blue and set free. Several days later, he was dead!

How the people were driven by Yamamoto! But at the end of the year, they saw more



Writer Um Heung Sup

than half of their harvests going to Yamamoto's storehouses. Then there were fees for irrigation, fertilizers, and what not. So, every year the poor village people were in debt up to the ears.

When Yamamoto thought he had enough paddy and dry fields, he wanted to have a big orchard. He simply grabbed all the fertile land around the farm to open a fruit farm.

In a few years the trees began to give fruits.

Sometimes in the autumn wind some fruits would drop off and roll outside the barbed wire entanglements of the orchard; then on the orchard ground were seen heaps of worm-eaten fruits. Naturally the village children would go near the orchard—they knew they had to keep a certain distance—and pick up the fallen fruits. But still a boy or two would be caught by Yamamoto, who would tie up the children, and pelted them with kicks and blows. Yamamoto

roared they were thieves. Such a thing did occur not infrequently.

This happened to me, too. One day, I was playing on a path by the orchard with a few boys. Suddenly Yamamoto got me and gave me a sound thrashing. I still have a scar on my left thigh, and, whenever I look at it I cannot repress my anger at him.

Every year Yamamoto built more storehouses and fruit-storages. And his rice mill, too, expanded. Contrary to this, the number of huts of the peasants in the village disappeared one by one. Many of our village people left for Northeast China to try their luck. Simply they could not make a go of it. After paying farm-rent and other debts, the peasants had nothing to eat. Only their debts became more staggering.

When people left the village, the huts were pulled down by Yamamoto for manure. In the end, my family had to leave the village for some place, too.

Father owed some money to the Japanese and his delayed payment resulted in putting the house under an order of attachment. Eventually the Japanese tore down the house.

We built a thatched hut on the mountain slope and planted potatoes on a small plot opened in a stony field. And, as expected, the yield was a small one. Then we cultivated the field in waste by a stream, but it was washed away by the flood.

Our family was no exception. Almost all the families in the village lost their lands to the moneyed people and landlords.

Gradually the number of Japanese families increased in villages.

They were the so-called immigrants sponsored by the "Oriental Development Company," a colonial vehicle of the Japanese government. They acted as if they were real masters, regarding the Korean peasants as their servants. Every Japanese family had a

hunting-gun ostensibly for self-protection and raised a ferocious dog.

They divided farm lands in the village among themselves and exploited the peasants; they set up dry goods stalls on the highways to collect in every penny of the people.

At first these stalls had cheap candies, Japanese cakes and others. Eventually they grew into big stores. From them the villagers bought kerosene for their lamps, caustic soda, chinaware, knowing they were paying more than they should.

The Japanese began to give goods to the peasants on credit, for which the latter had to pay with interest in the fall. Thus the Japanese imperialists exploited our people.

At last the end came to Japan, and Korea was liberated. Our joy over the liberation was beyond description. But, who would have known that the Yankee imperialists would come into South Korea to replace the Japanese imperialists? Since their occupation of South Korea, the U.S. imperialist aggressors have been lording it over there.

To make matters worse, recently the Japanese fishing fleets are intruding into the waters of South Korea. They take away and cut off the net of the South Korean fishermen, they strike against the South Korean fishing boats to send them to the bottom of the sea. They run off with big hauls.

Various Japanese firms have been set up in Seoul; a Japanese influence is felt in all domains of South Korea. Besides, Japanese imperialism is also perpetrating cultural aggression.

Once in my childhood, I was caught by a Japanese teacher while I was speaking Korean. For that I was severely punished.

Japanese imperialism taught the Koreans the Japanese language, saying it is the "mother tongue" of Korea. They strictly prohibited the Koreans to use the Korean language. Korean students were beaten by Japanese teachers only because they had spoken Korean. The Japanese imperialists went so far as to organize informers on the students. If there

University students in Seoul rise up against the "South Korea-Japan negotiation." The indignant students seize a police jeep



was anyone who had spoken Korean, many fellows gave him a drubbing. And, if any student spoke Korean, he was fined 10 jun for each word. (At that time 10 jun could buy a dozen of pencils.) If he had no money to pay, he had to do some work to pay the fine.

Today the same Japanese militarists, with the backing of U.S. imperialism, are coming back to South Korea for economic aggression and cultural invasion.

Now South Korea is flooded with Japanese films, suggestive, curiosity-seeking, immoral. These nauseating films corrupt the beautiful customs of the Korean nation, disregard etiquette, and wreck the noble features of the Korean home and society. Every bookstore is filled with vulgar Japanese stories, and cheap Japanese songs drift through the streets. No wonder then some foreign journalists should remark:

"We cannot tell whether we are in Korea or in Japan!"

This is not all. The Japanese militarists are trying to accomplish the old dream of "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity" through the "Northeast

Asia military alliance" which U.S. imperialism is working to set up. This is precisely what the "ROK-Japan talks" is after at the bidding of Washington.

However, all these aggressive schemes of the U.S. government will bubble away. Times have changed.

This is the twentieth century, Korea is not the Korea of sixty years ago. This is a new Korea.

U.S. imperialism instigated the Pak Jung Hi clique and Japanese militarists to sign the "ROK-Japan treaty," with the same crafty method as was employed at the time of the "1905 protectorate treaty" sixty years ago. However, never will the Korean people recognize it.

Still vivid in our memory is the bitter past of our country when, sixty years ago, such traitors as Ri Wan Yong and Song Byung Joon sold off the country and the nation to Japanese imperialism. Would the Korean people let Pak Jung Hi sell off the country and nation so as to make South Korea a twice colony of U.S.-Japanese imperialism? No, never!

That is why the youths and students and the entire people

of South Korea, fired with patriotism, rose up to smash the "ROK-Japan treaty."

In the March 24 and June 3 uprisings, the South Korean youths and students heroically fought displaying amply the spirit of the Korean nation.

They demonstrated against the foreign aggressors, shouting: "The United States, throw off the mask!"

They removed the signboards of Japanese firms and burned the Japanese flags.

Their struggle is getting momentum.

Heroic and righteous is the struggle of the South Korean youths and students and people who are firmly determined to fight it out to the end until the final victory is won. They are ready, if need be, to give their lives for the unification and independence of the country and for the freedom and right of the nation.

There is no force that can check this heroic, righteous resistance.

U.S. imperialism must know clearly that no bayonets, no tanks, no tear bombs, no martial law can check the fighting people of South Korea.

Pyongyang citizens stage demonstrations against the "South Korea-Japan talks." The streamer reads: "Crush the aggressive schemes of the Japanese imperialists on South Korea!"



A scene from the music and dance epic "Glorious Is Our Fatherland"

TO CREATE NEW LITERATURE AND ARTS

During the past 20 years since the country's liberation our literature and arts have flourished on rich soil of the socialist system.

Socialist realism is the sole and just method of creation for our literature and arts. And our literature and arts are guided by Comrade Kim Il Sung's teachings on revolutionary literature and arts given during the anti-Japanese armed struggle period in the 1930's and by the revolutionary and Party literature and arts which thrived then.

In our country socialist realism had already found its expression in the literary and art works of the working class who appeared as the leading force in the national-liberation struggle after the March 1, 1919, Uprising against Japanese imperialism which occupied Korea. However, their works were not free from immaturity, ideological and artistical.

And the maturity had to wait until the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle in the 1930's, organized and led by Comrade Kim Il Sung. And the ideological and artistic contents of their literature and arts were enriched further. The socialist realistic literature and arts of the working class had served the national-liberation struggle of the Korean people.

It must be noted, however, in Korea under Japanese colonial domination, socialist realism could not become the sole and predominant method of creation. Only after liberation, the objective possibilities were created to eliminate every reactionary trend in literature and arts and develop socialist realism as the only method of creation under the conditions in which the exploiting class was liquidated and the political and moral unity of the people was strengthened.

From the very first day after our country's liberation from the yoke of Japanese rule, the Workers' Party of Korea directed special attention to forming the ranks of revolutionary writers and artists. To this end, older, progressive writers and artists were encouraged and large numbers of new faces among the working people, who had become the masters of the new social system, were trained. As a result, today there are more than a hundred People's Actors and Actresses, Merited Artists and Merited Actors and Actresses, and nearly 10,000 professional artists and writers. Besides, over million of literary and art circle members are active.

"Cultural workers should become the fighters on the cultural front." This is the teaching given by Premier Kim Il Sung right after liberation. Upholding his teaching, writers and artists created a large number of excellent works, which served the people.

The achievements attained in our literature and arts which actively serve the Korean revolution have been possible by translating into reality Premier Kim Il Sung's thinking on inheritance and development of national culture in a correct way and on building a socialist national culture.

Following liberation, Comrade Kim Il Sung elucidated the principle of inheriting and developing our cultural heritage. It has been his stand that we should not take over the past

blindly, but critically. Every phase of the cultural heritage should be taken over so as to suit the modern aesthetic tastes of the people in this revolutionary epoch. Of course, we must firmly stand on the national foundation in this respect.

However, a struggle was in order for the realization of this line against all opposition.

There appeared writers and artists who kept themselves to nationalism while others to national nihilistic ideas: the former maintained that Korea's literature and arts should be nothing but Korean, belittling everything foreign; the latter refused the fine cultural tradition of our country while praising everything exotic. Great efforts were made for the advancement of our national culture in accordance with Comrade Kim Il Sung's teachings on developing our national culture by fostering its good things and overcoming its weakness, and adopting fine things from the cultures of other countries. Such teachings of Comrade Kim Il Sung constitute the basis of the Party's policy on literature and arts.

Comrade Kim Il Sung has held that the writers and artists of the country must arm themselves with the principle of contemporaneity—to carry forward our cultural heritage means that we must make it serve our present revolutionary tasks and the actual needs of our literature and arts. Then he elu-

cidated new theoretical and practical questions arising from the realities.

At the same time, Comrade Kim Il Sung taught that the work of carrying forward the cultural heritage should be combined with the education of the people in socialist patriotism and the ideological work of rooting out dogmatism and formalism and of establishing national identity.

The Korean people created and developed a national culture in the struggle against the enemy both at home and abroad through their long history. However, such precious cultural heritage was destroyed, pillaged and distorted by the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism.

The spirit of patriotism occurs to the people only when they know well about the past of their country and their brilliant culture and customs. When they are ignorant of their history and cultural traditions, they will not have love for and pride in their country. Nor can they solve creatively new questions arising in the course of activities. Consequently, in our country, after liberation, the work of unearthing and collecting invaluable cultural relics of the nation was extensively carried out. Moreover, studies were made on them in a scientific way. In the long run, much success was scored in discovering and studying the excellent artistic and literary works of our ancestors which had been shunned and buried by the reactionary rulers in the class society.

It must be pointed out that the preservation of cultural relics was only part of the task of carrying forward the cultural heritage of the nation.

We should analyze, study, and develop cultural relics on a Marxist-Leninist viewpoint; arts of yesterday must be critically viewed and adopted from the standpoint of new contemporary arts; new artistic and literary works must be created to meet the demands of the new era while preserving the fine points of the nation.

As life undergoes changes and develops with the change of time, it is necessary to search for new techniques and forms to portray life artistically and realistically; to create new national forms, and to enrich and perfect them. If the strong points and shortcomings in the cultural heritage of the nation are not properly distinguished, and if it is not taken over critically, it may be possible to bring about wrong consequences—praising the old feudal society with its stagnation, and idealizing the old expressions.

In this respect great successes were achieved in our country after liberation in the work of carrying forward our cultural heritage.

The rapid development of the Korean opera is the case in point. After liberation many of

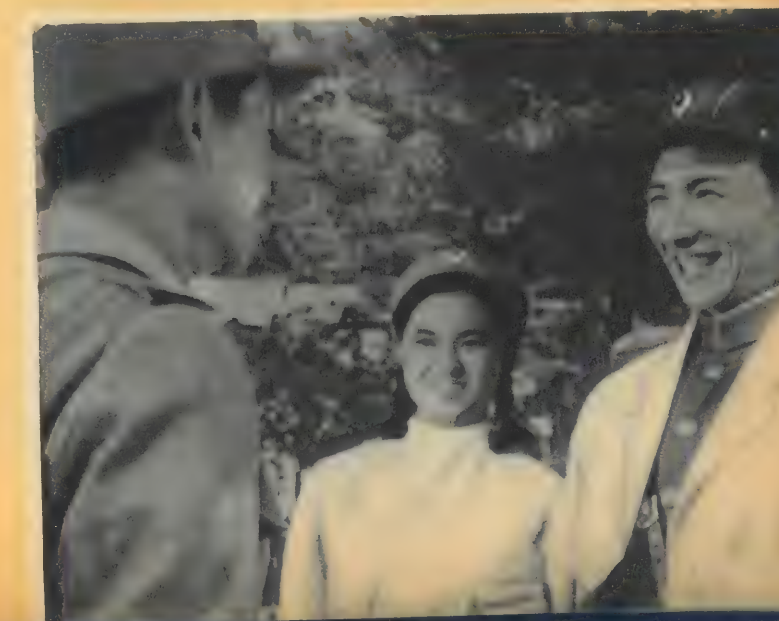


A scene from the dance drama "The Red Flag," which is built on the guerrilla warfare against Japanese imperialism



"Witch Dance"

A still from the feature film "A Story of a Fighter"



A chorus sings to the accompaniment of a national folk orchestra



our traditional classical works including "Tale of Choon Hyang," "Tale of Sim Chung," "Tale of Heungbo" were restored. They were presented in an opera form. Then came out many Korean operas with contemporary themes including the operas "Song of the Yellow Sea," "A New Song Is Heard from the Village across the River," which were acclaimed very highly.

Along with this, many notable achievements were scored in the development of the traditional Korean music. In singing *Pansori* music (aria in Korean opera) a new approach was made to the voice, and both men's and women's voices as well as chorus were used for the first time. Then operas "Baibaingi" and "Tale of Janghwa and Hongryun" based on the songs of the western part of the country appeared.

In developing our literature and arts it must also be pointed out that great efforts were made to introduce all the advanced and excellent achievements of human culture into our literary and art works. In assimilating the advanced culture achieved by mankind, we took new styles and forms of expressions suitable for the aesthetic tastes of our people and reflecting the rich contents of life of our time. Operas "Deep Love for Man," "This Is Not a Legend" and "Mother's Embrace" are the works that attained certain successes. They boldly used dialogues in the opera. The group dance "Molten Iron Flows" which was highly appreciated is a work which met the aesthetic demands of the time based on the national tradition.

Another side of the main successes in lit-

erature and arts since liberation is many forms suitable for reflecting the life of the era.

In the field of literature about 40 full-length novels came out in the postwar years, besides numerous medium-length and short stories. Among the novels are "The Dooman River," "In the Trial," "New Spring in Sukgai-wool," "The First Harvest," and "Sage Susan." In this period also created were more than ten epics. Such works also appeared in the fields of music, fine arts, and dance. Particular mention must be made of the music and dance epic "Glorious Is Our Fatherland," which is performed by 3,000. Then "Shining 15 Years" and "Blooming Chungsanri" are outstanding musical compositions. They are all of a new style. In the field of fine arts also created have been new works which attempted to usher in new styles by introducing the mural painting style and decorative art in order to put more richly our life on the canvas. The painting "Deep Love for Man" is an outstanding one in this respect.

Like this, the path our literature and arts have traversed shows that only when the question of tradition and innovation in literature and arts is properly dealt with, can national characteristics and contemporaneity be ably resolved, literature and arts remain in a close bound within life, and the feelings of the masses be aroused.

At the same time, it shows that a contemporary, national, socialist realistic literature and arts with true national identity can be created only when the question of tradition and innovation is properly dealt with.

AGAIN ON U.S. "AID"

JUNG YONG JIK

"Cotton Mills Face the Hardest Time," "Small Plants on the Brink of Bankruptcy," "Hungry Faces Overflow the Streets," "Peasants Live on Grass, Go Begging." These are some of the headlines of the South Korean papers.

Every day more and more factories and mills go bankrupt, and millions of the jobless roam about the streets, then farmers and their families live on grass and plant roots. This is South Korea.

What caused all this?

It is the very result of the twenty years of U.S. occupation of South Korea.

Yet, the American authorities very often boastfully speak of the "enormous benefit" that Washington gave to South Korea with its "aid."

Then, let us have another look at the much advertised Washington's "aid."

Between 1945 and 1964, the U.S. imperialists gave 12,000,000,000 dollars of "aid" to South Korea, of which 3,600,000,000 dollars were labelled as economic one with the rest being military aid. It goes without saying that U.S. "military aid" has gone into reinforcing the U.S. occupation forces and the South Korean puppet army. Even the "economic aid," most of it, was used for military purposes in one way or another.

Washington's "economic aid" is given in surplus U.S. goods, and the income from its sale is termed

as "counterpart fund."

The "counterpart fund" is an important part of the South Korean budget, and this gives the U.S. a voice—a final voice—in making up South Korea's annual budget. The U.S. imperialists make the South Korean authorities earmark the overwhelming part of the budget for military purposes, leaving a meagre sum for the country's production. Thus South Korea's industry and agriculture are driven to bankruptcy.

Every year the direct military expenditure is growing: this year it is 28,000,000,000 won or an increase of 5,300,000,000 won over

last year, while the fund for investment and business loans is decreased by 3,600,000,000 won compared with 1963.

All this makes things more difficult for the South Korean manufacturers and businessmen, who are under the constant threat of total bankruptcy.

Today some 75 per cent of the medium and small enterprises are deep in debt. Over half of the plants which closed their doors was due to fund shortage.

Such economic stagnation inevitably gives rise to mass unemployment.

With their "aid" the U.S. imperialists have made South Korea's industry rely on raw materials and supplies from the U.S. Washington, pursuing its policy of "sell America," hindered South Korea from producing on its own or importing at will stuffs that it needed.

Owing to the dumping of surplus American goods through "economic aid" South Korea's import exceeds 20 times its export. Over 80 per cent of the imports come from America. Now three days' delay in the gasoline supply from the U.S.

Such is the lot of factories in South Korea. Their doors are tightly closed



RADIO PYONGYANG'S English Language
Transmissions

	Korean time	GMT	ke/s	metres
Near and Middle East & Africa	03:00-04:00	18:00-19:00	7,580	39.5
	04:00-05:00	19:00-20:00	6,540	46.0
Latin America	12:00-13:00	03:00-04:00	14,520	20.6
			9,750	30.8
Southeast Asia	19:00-20:00	10:00-11:00	7,580	39.5
	20:00-21:00	11:00-12:00	9,750	30.8



stops everything in South Korea—transportation, factories, mills, and mines. If surplus American agricultural produce stops coming in for a while, 60 per cent of South Korea's textiles and food factories come to a standstill. Then 15-20 per cent of South Korea's food consumption relies on the surplus grains of the U.S.

This is not all.

The U.S. imperialists leave no stone unturned to hold the life line of South Korea's economy. They force their surplus goods on South Korea at the price 20-30 per cent higher than the prevailing price at the international market. Whenever they see fit, they boost the exchange rate in favour of the dollar. Between 1945 and 1964, the U.S. imperialists advanced the dollar-won exchange rate on no less than 38 occasions in their favour. So far, the rate rose 5,100-fold in these years. But they are still unsatisfied. This year the U.S. imperialists have adopted a new exchange system under which they can unlimitedly increase the exchange rate in their favour.

Need it be said such increasing exchange rate makes the lot of South Korea's industrialists and businessmen and the people more difficult? Everything in South Korea depends on goods and raw materials from the U.S.

As the exchange rate increased in 1961, the South Korean peasantry had to pay an additional sum of 2,200,000,000-2,700,000,000 won a year for the fertilizer alone. When the exchange rate was again jerked up in May 1964, the prices in no time went up by 30 per cent, imported goods by 50 per cent.

The colonial enslavement policy of U.S. imperialism and its pillage in South Korea have reduced the South Korean economy to ruin and aggravated its colonial one-sidedness.

Today in South Korea only some



South Korean flood victims

textile and foodstuffs plants which supply the army are running. Even the few heavy industrial plants which the Japanese imperialists had built, South Korean papers lament, "operate a day but stop two days."

South Korea's agriculture is another victim of the surplus U.S. agricultural produce.

In South Korea, compared with the last days of Japanese rule over Korea, the area under cultivation has shrunk by 200,000 *jungbo*, and the sown area by some 400,000 *jungbo*. American fertilizers, unsui-

(Continued on page 37)



It is already getting late, but not a thing for these porters

More and more box-houses are to be seen in the South Korean cities

Hungry people are going through the dumping ground



CARTOONS

Pak: "How am I doing?"



Pak Jung Hi inviting in his old master





Land of Sufferings— HONAM PLAIN

JANG SUK HOON

The Honam plain in the southwestern part of the Korean peninsula was a large grain producer in the past.

Its soil is most fertile, and the climate is mild. From the early days, therefore, farming developed there.

The plain yielded good crops of rice, then of barley, bean, millet, sweet potatoes, cotton, tobacco, flax, etc.

Records say that 1,600 years ago a big reservoir called "Byukgolji" was built in Kimje County on this plain and a dam, 1,800 feet long, was built.

This was one of the many irrigation projects that our ancestors built to help the country's farming. Kimje County, from time immemorial, had been a large grain producer on the Honam plain.

However, half a century ago the Honam plain passed into the hands of the foreign aggressors. The Japanese imperialists that had occupied Korea and the Korean landlords and capitalists grabbed 65,000 *jungbo* of land by every trick and bled the peasants white.

Peasants on Honam Plain, once a granary of Korea, today live on grass roots and barks



Through the Goonsan port, the Japanese imperialists shipped away over 1,800,000 *suk* (one *suk* is 150 kg.), or two-thirds of the total grain output in North Julla Province, to Japan every year.

Owing to the ruthless exploitation by the Japanese imperialists and Korean landlords hunger haunted the peasants. They harvested rice but had to live on coarse grains at best.

When the country was liberated from the Japanese imperialists on August 15, 1945, the peasants on this plain cherished hope and joy, but in vain.

In September that year the U.S. imperialist army in place of the Japanese imperialists occupied South Korea.

During the past twenty years of U.S. occupation South Korean farmers have been suffering indescribably. Hunger was all they knew.

Now the Honam plain is a land of suffering, a prey of U.S. imperialism.

The U.S. imperialists and their successive puppet regimes only exploited the peasants. They did not do anything for better farming. Flood control and afforestation have been neglected, farms have been ruined, irrigation projects which used to water some 50,000 *jungbo* of land were left to ruin.

Drought and flood hit every year and the grain yield keeps shrinking.

Many fertile farmland on this Honam plain has been expropriated by the U.S. occupation forces for military purposes, then Goonsan is now a U.S. naval base. More farmers are leaving the villages.

Soil has been acidified from U.S. chemical fertilizer, which does not suit soil and crops there.

All this has been designed by the U.S. to dispose its surplus agricultural produce in South Korea. Every year the dumping of surplus U.S. agricultural produce increases. In 1963, it reached some 10,000,000 *suk*.

Farming implements the farmers use on the Honam plain are primitive ones—hoe and the like.

There is a plow for every ten farm households, a hand-operated weeder for every fourteen households, and a space for every four. And the number of draught animals is decreasing rapidly. They use no machine.

All this naturally led to a continuous shrinkage in the agricultural produce in South Korea.

In 1958, after 13 years of U.S. occupation, the grain output in North Julla Province shrank to 2,520,000 *suk*, then to 2,370,000 *suk* in 1960. The figure stood at 2,790,000 *suk* in 1937.

As the grain output shrinks, exploitation of the peasants by the authorities and landlords becomes worse.

Exorbitant tax burdens including those in kind plus a hundred and one levies have driven the peasants to the rock-bottom life.

"Agrarian reform", "liquidation of usury debts" and "physiocracy" of the successive puppet regimes are nothing but tricks for deceiving the peasants.

Most of farmland is concentrated in the hands of the landlords, and debts of the farmers to usurers increase still more. The number of peasants, hungry and shelterless, keeps growing.

Last year a great number of the peasant families were served with an order of attachment by the Pak Jung Hi clique. The Pak regime is to squeeze even the last penny from the peasants under various names—taxes, refund of loans.

According to the data released by the North Julla provincial government, as of the end of 1963 some 106,300 peasant families, i.e., 40 per cent of the total peasant households, had no provisions, though the harvest had been done

(Continued from page 34)

sufficient. Thanks to U.S. "aid" the foundation of South Korea's economy has been ruined, its agriculture uprooted. Industry cannot make even simple farm implements, let alone fertilizers and other chemicals. Agriculture is far from providing raw materials to light industry.

Decrease in production plus the astronomical figures of military expenditure has put the South Korean regime in red. It has issued some 60,000,000,000 won of bonds. Hence the worst inflation, and the value of "won keeps dropping, while the prices are skyrocketing. U.S. "aid," in the last analysis,

a couple of months ago.

"We have nothing, but mounting debts." This is what the peasants on this Honam plain are saying in unison.

There is a peasant in the Duksil village in Choonpo Sub-county, Iksan County, who harvested 3 *suk* last year. But there was not a grain left under his name. Everything was taken away for taxes and loans.

There were 86 households in this village. With the exception of a few families, everyone did not know where the next meal would come from. In the end, they all left their village.

A South Korean reporter lamented over the picture:

"This is a horrible sight, a miserable procession. They have to quit their village, for they cannot live here. How tragic this is!"

U.S. occupation of South Korea has brought all the misery to the peasants of South Korea.

Only by driving the U.S. aggressors out of South Korea and achieving the country's unification by the Koreans, can the South Korean peasants be freed from this tragedy and their life be improved.

Therefore, the peasants together with workers, youths and students of South Korea are waging a staunch struggle for the country's unification, for existence, and for democratic rights.

Encouraged by the great successes made in the countryside of North Korea, the peasants of South Korea are waging a vigorous anti-U.S. and national-salvation struggle.

They are demanding a new government, a new system. No force can quench the flames of their struggle.

is to pump out other's wealth many-fold as much as the amount of the "aid." By 1962, Wall Street gave South Korea "economic aid" in the sum of 3,300,000,000 dollars. But, even according to the smallest estimate the U.S. took out 8,000,000,000 dollars! Some 2.4 times the original investment!

Such is the U.S. "aid" given to South Korea for the past 20 years. It has brought nothing but bankruptcy, hardship, chaos to the South Korean people. So, unless these most wicked uninvited guests—the U.S. imperialists—are driven out of South Korea, it cannot relieve itself of disaster and decline it is going through now.

MY VISIT TO KOREA

Prof. D. Biran

Leader of the Indonesian Scientists Delegation

We are very much impressed by the hospitality and friendship of the Korean leaders and the Korean people. Everywhere we were received heartily.

Construction of apartment buildings, replacing the old and small houses, was one of the striking features that we noticed upon our arrival in Pyongyang. But such tall buildings were not only limited to the capital city. We saw them in small villages as well.

The Korean scientists' dedication to and responsibility for work—this we experienced at the Kyungrak Research Institute under the leadership of Prof. Kim Bong Han.

On April 15, Prof. Kim Bong Han submitted his paper on the Kyungrak system before an audience of about 700 Korean scientists from all parts of the country. Not only this historic event is of importance for the people of Korea, but also it is a significant blessing to the whole world.

We, delegates from one of the New Emerging Forces, are

proud that the Kyungrak system has been discovered and developed by scientists of a New Emerging Force. And this in itself will be a great stimulant to the scientists of other New Emerging Forces countries to cooperate with each other.

May I, therefore, on behalf of my fellow delegates express our highest respect to the successes achieved by Prof. Kim Bong Han. We are convinced that Prof. Kim Bong Han and his research group will yield even greater successes in the future, which will be indispensable not only to the biological and medical fields but to all mankind. Such progress is due to the Chullima spirit of the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the leadership of the Workers' Party led by Premier Kim Il Sung.

The Government is paying great attention to the future of Korea. One can see easily how much care and attention it is directing towards education of the younger generation when one visits the kindergartens and the children's palaces. Knowledge, virtue, and sound body are the main contents in educating the children, and this will produce wholesome children, spiritually and physically, and equipped with tho-



Best Wishes to Friends In Indonesia

I extend my best wishes to the Indonesian people who celebrate the 20th anniversary of the proclamation of independence. I was in Indonesia this April when Premier Kim Il Sung paid a state visit to that country. A thousand emotions crowd upon my mind as I look back upon the days I spent among the friends of Indonesia. And I, from the bottom of heart, extend my best wishes to all my Indonesian friends on their national holiday.

During Premier Kim Il Sung's stay in Indonesia, I felt every island of the beautiful country was filled with love and friendship towards the Korean people.

In Djakarta and Bandung, and along the Djakarta-Bogor-Bandung route, hundreds of thousands of people, young and old, greeted us, shouting "Long live Kim Il Sung!" and "Long live Korea!" and singing the "Song of General Kim Il Sung." All this I will remember as long as I live.

Wherever we went, we were in the sea of the flags of the two countries.

The seeds of friendship sown in Korea and Indonesia will grow into flower gardens bearing fruits of friendship in the countries of Morning Calm and Treasures in the Tropics.

rough knowledge and high morality. Indeed this is the sound foundation for building a new and strong nation.

The Chullima spirit in factories and schools brings about greater production and leads

Though Korea and Indonesia are separated by the continent and seas and the mountains, the hearts of our two peoples are undivided. We went through the same past; today in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism, the common enemy, the two peoples are firmly united.

The Korean people waged the protracted struggle to liberate themselves from the yoke of Japanese imperialist rule; the Indonesian people unfolded the heroic struggle against the reign of the Dutch colonialists, British aggression, and Japanese occupation.

With their mouths watering for the fertile soil and enormous natural resources of Indonesia, the imperialists and colonialists stretched their tentacles to this country centuries ago. To be sure, they had ruled this island country for years, yet they could not bend the patriotism and fighting spirit of the people.

At long last the Indonesian people overthrew the imperialist-colonialist rule and founded the Republic of Indonesia. Today this country's territory covers a vast area, from Sabang in Sumatra to Meraukwa in West Irian. Indeed the people of Indonesia have opened a new brilliant page in their history. The Korean people rejoice over the victory of the Indonesian people like their own.

The past twenty years that the peoples of the two countries have traversed shows that

each country should persistently fight imperialism to fortify independence and work for the prosperity and independent development of the nation.

The imperialists are desperate in their schemes. They want to restore their old positions in Asian and African countries. The Dutch imperialists started the war hoping to nip off the young Indonesian Republic in its bud.

Several Washington-inspired reactionary armed revolts were staged. The British imperialists have cooked up "Malaysia." The ceaseless intrigues and provocative acts have been conducted by the U.S. and British imperialists through the U.N. All this shows that it is unthinkable to attain national independence and prosperity unless one fights against imperialism.

The Korean people know very well the history of the heroic Indonesian people who honourably defended their Republic from all offensives of the imperialists, and we are very proud of their history as we join them in celebrating the 20th birthday of the Republic of Indonesia.

The Indonesian people have risen up to a man to bring down "Malaysia." The Indonesian Government withdrew from the U.N., slapping U.S. and British imperialists in their faces.

Neither the United Nations, nor "Malaysia," nor military blocs can check the advance of revolution in Indonesia and

KO SUNG SOON

hamper prosperity and development of the island Republic.

The Indonesian people have grown into an invincible force. Neither threat nor blackmail can intimidate the heroic people of Indonesia.

Everywhere I went, I could see and sense the firm resolve and revolutionary spirit of the Indonesian people who stand at the outpost against imperialism and colonialism.

Now, under the banner of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism, the Indonesian people keep fighting resolutely for consolidation of independence, progress, and prosperity of the country.

The Korean people consider it their sacred duty to express their solidarity with and support and encouragement to the Indonesian people who are waging a patriotic, revolutionary struggle to repulse aggression of the imperialists, and to smash "Malaysia."

We the Korean people are convinced that the invincible 105,000,000 people of Indonesia will persistently push ahead revolution and build a prospering state on their fertile soil under the leadership of President Sukarno, their distinguished leader. Progress and prosperity will be the fighting Indonesians'.

the people towards bigger achievements. In hospitals it manifests itself in the medical workers' devotion to the patients. Endeavours for producing in the spirit of self-reliance home-made machines, instruments

and teaching aids are visible everywhere. No wonder there are so many Chullima work-teams.

Another striking point is the spirit of cooperation in work. It is their motto: "One for All,

and All for One."

In conclusion we would like to say that we have seen the realization of an ideal guided by the Workers' Party of Korea under the leadership of the great Premier Kim Il Sung.

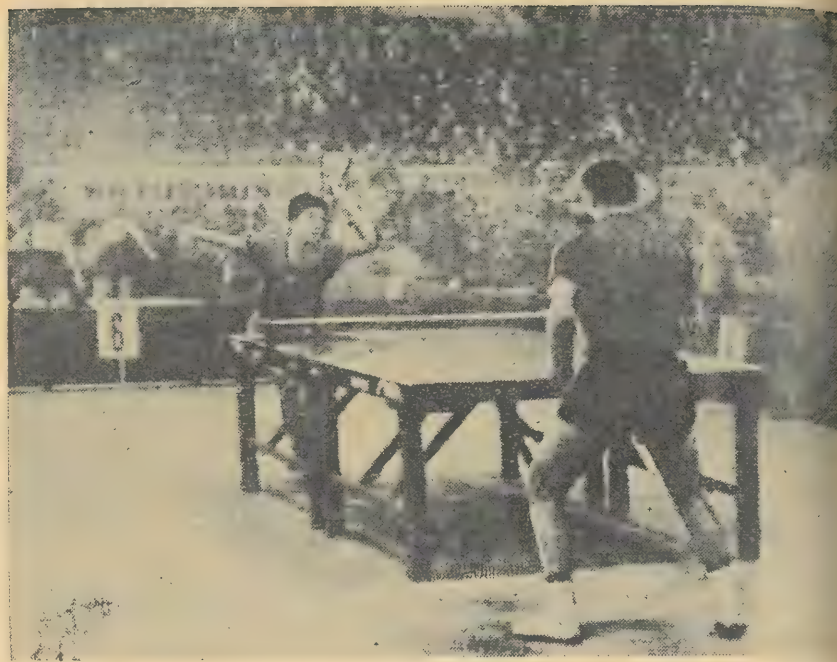
Sports

Korean Table Tennis Players at Ljubljana

Korean men's table tennis players were placed third in the men's team event at the 28th World Table Tennis Championships held at Ljubljana in Yugoslavia from April 15 to 25.

Members of the Korean team Kim Yung Sam, Pak Sin Il, Kim Chang Ho, and Jung Ryang Woong—all young men of around 20—demonstrated their superb skills and a powerful fighting spirit. They defeated Cambodia 5:0, Wales 5:0, Poland 5:0, Hungary 5:1, Iran 5:1, Sweden 5:1, England 5:1, and Yugoslavia 5:2.

The Korean players made their debut at the world championships



Korean men's team defeated the Swedish team with a score of 5:1

only several years ago. Yet at the recent world championships they did so well in encounters with many outstanding pingpong players of the world. They won a praise of "Chullima in the court."

Our players made a good showing in the men's singles as well.

Pak Sin Il beat Ogimura of Japan, twice world singles champion, Su Kuo-hsi of China, and Joo Campos of Portugal, while Kim Yung Sam eliminated Freddy Hansen of Denmark, Janos Fahazi of Hungary, and Guy Amouretti of France.

New Books

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Each volume: 500 pages.
Published by: Foreign Languages Publishing House,
Pyongyang, D.P.R.K.

TRAVELOGUE

ALONG THE WEST COAST

PAK TAI HOON

Where the Amrok River empties itself into the West Sea, a large-scale nature-remaking project is in progress—the project to block the sea to get more land.

Our steamer slid down the river for some hours before we arrived at Bidan (Silk) Island, the island of reed.

According to the workers of the reed experimental farm, fibrous elements in reed is as much as 53.3 to 56.4 per cent and it is more useful than wood and others for the rayon and pulp making.

One *jungbo* of cotton field yields 2,000 metres of fabrics, but one *jungbo* of reed field gives no less than 20,000 metres.

Silk Island is about 2,000 *jungbo* in area. Until some years ago it had no name—then it was an uninhabited islet overgrown with reed and weed.

After liberation attempts were made to cultivate reed, but they were not successful for flood was frequent to bury most of the land under water. The state eventually decided to embank the island to protect it from the sea water. It installed five big pumps. And then irrigation was started. Now the reed harvest rose rapidly.

Eventually the islet has become the supply center for the Sineuijoo Chemical Fibre Factory with reed—raw material for the factory. Now the island has a new name "Bidansum" or Silk Island.

Here a large-scale nature-remaking project is under way to reclaim a stretch of tide-land between Silk Island and Sin-do Island—a distance some 12 km long. Some 34 kilometres long embankment will be built to create a large artificial island with an area of 6,200 *jungbo*. Then some 5,500 *jungbo* of reed field will be created, from which some 110,000,000 metres of fabrics will be secured.

Reed from the reclaimed land is being brought to Sineuijoo to be turned into fabrics





The reclaimed reed field is crisscrossed with irrigation canals

The manager of the construction office who took me round the construction site told me that the first constructors' corps came to Sindo Island in October, 1958. The state sent materials and equipment. It was not an easy job to build a large embankment. In all weathers, the builders fighting the raging waves had to go ahead with the work. Now about 70 per cent of the project has been completed. To finish the whole project it will take one or two more years yet.

Such a project to "stop" the sea and expand the land is carried on not only there, but along the almost entire west coast of North Korea. In a few years there will be some 120,000-130,000 *jungbo* of land reclaimed. Altogether, some 580-kilometer long embankment is being built.

The west and south seas of Korea are dipping, shallow and their coastlines are richly indented. The West Sea is wide in its southern end, which is greatly influenced by the

Pacific Ocean. But, it becomes gradually narrow as it goes up northward. Its tides rise as high as about ten metres. On top of it every year such big rivers of Korea as the Amrok, Daidong and Han deposit an incalculable amount of sand in the West Sea. All this has resulted in the wide areas of tide-land along Korea's west coast.

Our country is mountainous and the area of cultivated land is very limited. Consequently to turn the tide-land into paddy field is a question of great importance to Korea.

Eventually we were on a boat headed for Sinmi Island, Sunchun County, North Pyongan Province. It was a tide-land surveying boat of the Academy of Sciences. Then the tide was on the ebb. Before long, the island will be linked with the mainland and the sea off Chulsan will disappear. It means some 10,000 *jungbo* of new farm land.

In a four-day sailing along the west coast we saw some 100,000 *jungbo* of tide-land. We



Reclamation of tide-land is in progress

were told the soil is fertile. Then there are many islets, which will make the embankment projects much easier. At any rate, the tide-land will become farmlands before long.

We dropped in at a co-operative farm in Sookchun County, South Pyongan Province, which is working on a wide area of paddy-field, once the tide-land. The co-operative farm people told us that the per *jungbo* yield was 4 to 5 tons of rice. It sounded almost incredible. After all, it was once tide-land, and the water was salty sea water. They explained. They were quite successful in making the water sweet with irrigation and chemicals. They say the per unit area yield will surpass 6 tons soon.

The reclamation work was in full swing in Onchun County, South Pyongan Province, too. The area stretching from there to the mouth of the Daidong River is the salt producing centre of the country. The annual precipitation is about 700 mm. There are pilot plants

producing salt, gypsum, magnesium chloride, carbonic calcium, and others. By the way, the sunset was most gorgeous on the West Sea.

After an overnight stop at the port of Nam-po we left for South Hwanghai Province to inspect the tideland of some 100,000 *jungbo*.

We sailed to the Boo-po port on the Kang-ryung Peninsula by way of Cho-do Island, one of the known fishing ports on the West Sea, and Monggeum-po, a famous beach and also known for its fine sand for the glass-making. Boo-po Bay is a famous seaweed producing centre. The sea temperature does not go down beyond 2°C below zero even in the winter and is the ideal place for the sea plants cultivation.

Here, along the coast of Chungdan, the tide-land covers some 100,000 *jungbo*. Until some years ago the tide-land was neglected. But the completion of the Chungdan irrigation project provided a favourable condition for reclamation, which started last autumn. In the near

A pumping station has been built to water the reed field



At the Sineuljoo Chemical Fibre Mill pulp is obtained from reed



Monggeum-po has been known for its scenic beauty from ancient times





Revolutionary RELICS

EMBROIDERY

An embroidered Korean map designed with the rose of Sharon (on display in the Museum of Korean Revolution)

The Korean people have called from time immemorial their country a beautiful land of 3,000 *ri*. The 3,000 *ri* is the distance of Korea from the northern tip to the southern end. But the term means more than that. It signifies the Korean people's love to their country.

In a showcase of the Museum of Korean Revolution there is an embroidered Korean map—the map is designed with a tree and flowers. The explanatory note reads:

"This was embroidered in 1939 by a woman member of the partisan unit that fought Japanese imperialism. For the map, she used

the cord of a pistol captured in the battle of Fangcheng County on the Sunghwa River in November 1938. She looked at it whenever she got homesick and renewed her determination to remain faithful to revolution."

The very woman partisan who made the embroidery is Kim Ok Soon, First Vice-Chairman of the C.C. of the Democratic Women's Union of Korea. She recalls:

"Among the weapons captured in the battle of Fangcheng County, where we routed the Japanese, there was a pistol with a silk cord. Unravelling this cord I made thread in odd moments.

Then I dyed it with grass and flowers. For instance, green is made from grass, pink from azalea, etc. Then I asked Comrade Pak Gil Song, commander of our unit and a good painter, to draw a Korean map. Whenever I had a few spare moments I embroidered patterns of flowers over it."

She had kept the embroidery with her until the day of liberation of the country. Rain and sweat has made the colours run from the map which was made 26 years ago. But the patriotic spirit of the revolutionary fighter permeated in the embroidery inspires greatly the spectators.

future a wide area of paddy-fields will make appearance there, too.

Our boat sailed from Ryongmai-do Island, south of the city of Haijoo, via the Yunbaik salt-field, to Yukgoo-do Island. Before us loomed Kyodong, Kanghwa and other islands of South Korea under U.S. occupation within a hailing distance. We thought of the South Korean people who are groaning under the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet regime.

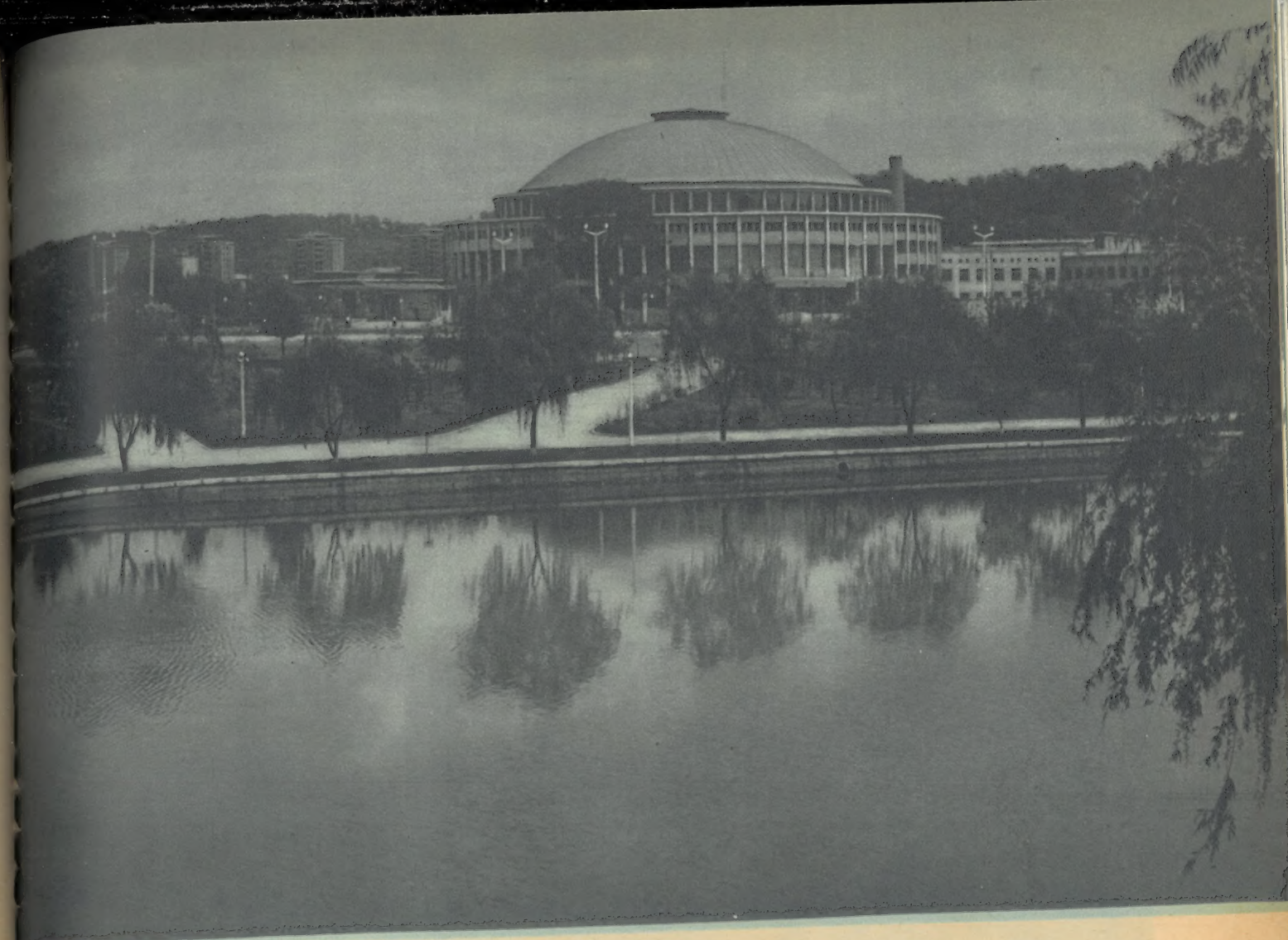
In North Korea large-scale reclamation projects are being in progress while the South Korean authorities have not lifted up their finger for reclamation. Still worse, they have

left the reclaimed tide-land at the mercy of the sea.

There we thought we should redouble our efforts to unify the country even one day sooner. If all people in the North and the South work together, we can reclaim 710,000 *jungbo* of tide-land on the west coast of the country.

* * *

In the near future the indented coastline of West Korea will be straightened up. There will be more farms, greater salt-fields. Perhaps the map of Korea would be redrawn, too!



The Pyongyang Acrobatic Theatre seen from the River Botong

A NEW CIRCUS THEATRE

In the West District of Pyongyang by the Botong River stands a new circus theatre.

With its dark-green cupola it is looking up at the Chullima Statue standing on Mansoodai Hill.

Standing in a compound of

50,000 square metres, the 1,800-seat theatre has a floor space of 15,000 square metres. Its diameter is 67 metres and its height 27 metres. In addition to the main building there are a few annexes including rehearsal halls and animal pens.

Not a single pillar is to be

found in the big circular auditorium equipped with a circular stage, which has all necessary gadgets for aerial stunts and other shows.

Everything connected with the stage is automated including all its movement, rise and fall, back and forth.

The theatre is also suitable for movies and indoor sports games. Even aquatic and ice shows can be performed in all seasons.

The theatre is well equipped for every convenience of the circus admirers.

A few words about history.

The theatre celebrated the 13th anniversary of the establishment of the circus company. Director Pak Gyung Hwa who has been member of the company since its founding, had this to say:

The Pyongyang Circus Company was organized in the wartime on June 10, 1952. With a

view to providing recreation to the people the state set up this circus company and gathered together circus performers who had been in this field before the country's liberation.

In the early days the company had only 10 members and its routine performance had seven or eight numbers. Then the government has paid special attention to the traditional acrobatics as well as modern circus art. Now the Pyongyang Circus Company has grown to have several hundred acrobats and circus workers including People's Artist Kim Bong Ai and ten odd Merited Artists.

Here, Director Pak said a few words about People's Artist Kim Bong Ai:

On the day of the premiere of special performances in celebration of the completion of the new Pyongyang Circus Theatre, Kim Bong Ai performed her routine numbers—foot-tricks of "balancing a spinning parasol," "balancing a spinning pot," and others.

When her act ended, there was resounding applause. After many curtain calls she came back to her dressing room and sank into the sofa. Hot tears rolled down her cheeks fading her make-up.

Kim Bong Ai, at the age of 8, then the Japanese imperialists ruled our country, was sold to a Japanese circus owner by the master of a house whose baby she had been tending. The innocent little girl was forced to learn a series of tricks. The cracking whip was always there. Some time later she met her mother, who was anxious to take the little girl back. But mother could not take Bong Ai with her, for she had no money to buy back her daughter.

Kim Bong Ai longed for her mother more than ever after that, while travelling from one town to another. Such painful life went on for years. In the meantime, she lost the track of her mother.

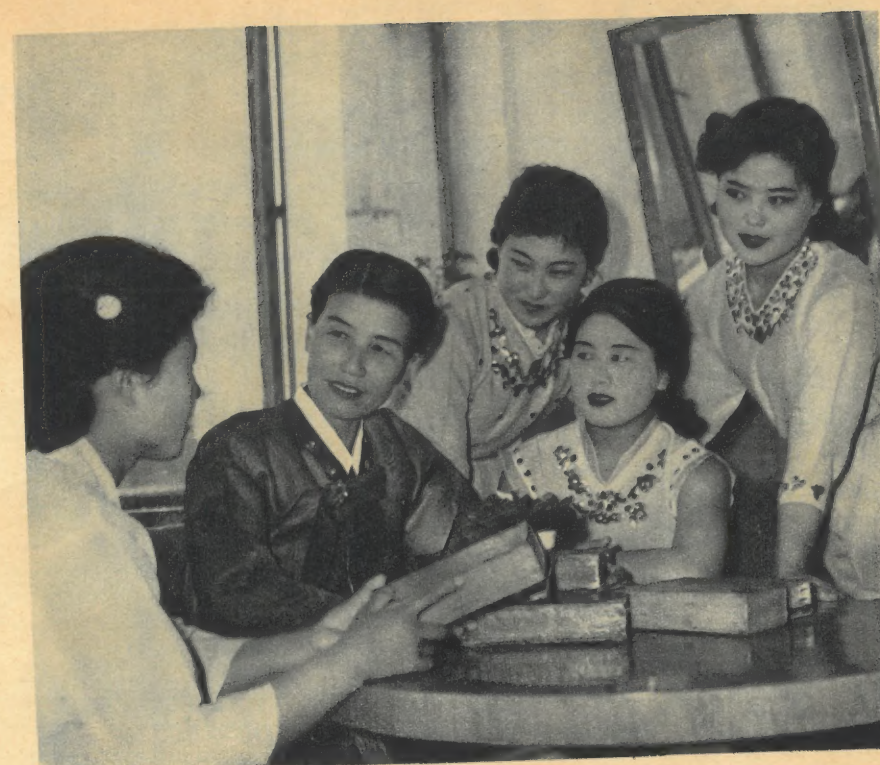
Under the people's power set up after the liberation, Kim Bong Ai was reborn. She has grown into a fine acrobatic artist and her talents flowered more than ever. Now, she is awarded the title of People's Artist, the highest honour for an artist in the D.P.R.K.

That night, after the premiere, many of her young friends called on her to congratulate her on her performance.

They sat around Kim Bong Ai, who told her bitter story to the young circus artists who are growing freely without experiencing such a tortured life as she had. She encouraged them to work hard and perfect their talents to give the people more enjoyment.

Now the young acrobats are trained under different conditions. They are no more forced to go training at the crack of the whip. They get their training under the regular education system.

All of them are well provid-



People's Artist Kim Bong Ai (second from left) tells younger ones about her miserable childhood before the country's liberation

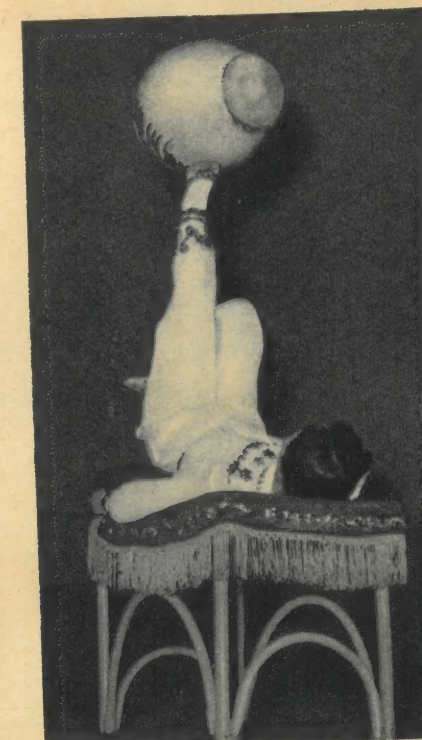
ed with everything they need. They are masters of their theatre. Then they have cosy modern flats and happy homes.

Under these blessed circumstances, the Pyongyang Circus Company will further develop the art of national circus.

A cycling act



Balancing a spinning pot



The big stage

DO YOU KNOW?

DECORATIONS IN D.P.R.K.

In our country honorable titles and medals are conferred upon those who have performed distinguished services for the country and people.

THE TITLE OF HERO

In our country there are two different titles of hero; Hero of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Labour Hero of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

These titles are conferred upon those who have rendered heroic services for the country and people. They are the highest honour for the people. The title of Labour Hero is given to those who have made distinguished labour exploits for the country and people.

Heroes of the D.P.R.K. are decorated with National Flag Order Class I and a gold star medal, and Labour Heroes National Flag Order Class I and a gold sickle-and-hammer medal.

NATIONAL FLAG ORDER

National Flag Order is classified into Classes I, II and III. National Flag Order Class I is the highest decoration that the state

confers upon a citizen, a group, an organ, a factory, and a social organization that has made outstanding services in the fields of politics, economy, culture, and national defence.

DISTINGUISHED LABOUR SERVICE ORDER

Distinguished Labour Service Order is second to National Flag Order Class I, and it is awarded to those who have performed meritorious services in political, economic and cultural branches.

FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE ORDER

This is given to commanders of the Korean People's Army (above the rank of company commander), leaders of the partisan units who have successfully conducted their combat missions, and cadres of the state organs who have made good services in the war production and the transportation of munitions. There are classes I and II of Freedom and Independence Order.

RI SOON SIN ORDER

This is conferred upon naval

commanders of the Korean People's Army.

There are Classes I and II in this medal. (Ri Soon Sin was an outstanding patriot and a great naval commander of our country in the 16 century. Admiral Ri Soon Sin displayed great exploits in the naval battles against the invading Japanese army of Hideyoshi.)

FIGHTERS' HONOUR ORDER

This Order is for the men, non-commissioned officers, second lieutenants of the Korean People's Army and members of the partisan units who have performed meritorious services to the country and the people. The Fighters' Honour Order is classified into Classes I and II.

MILITARY MERITS MEDAL AND MERITORIOUS SERVICES MEDAL

Military Merits Medal is conferred upon those who have performed meritorious services in the war and in national defence.

Meritorious Services Medal is awarded to the person who, displaying patriotic devotion, has done good services for the country's prosperity and development in all fields, political, economic, and cultural.

The Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly confers all these titles and medals.

Those decorated enjoy special privileges and rights.

Business Line:

Ginseng, medicinal herbs, tobacco, cattle (both for pedigree and for slaughter), seeds and seedlings, cereals, oil-bearing plants, vegetables, fruits, fats and oils, processed cereals and foodstuffs, marine products, furs and other animal products, etc.

Korea Foodstuffs Export & Import Corporation,
Pyongyang, D.P.R.K.

Cable address: "SIK NYO" Pyongyang

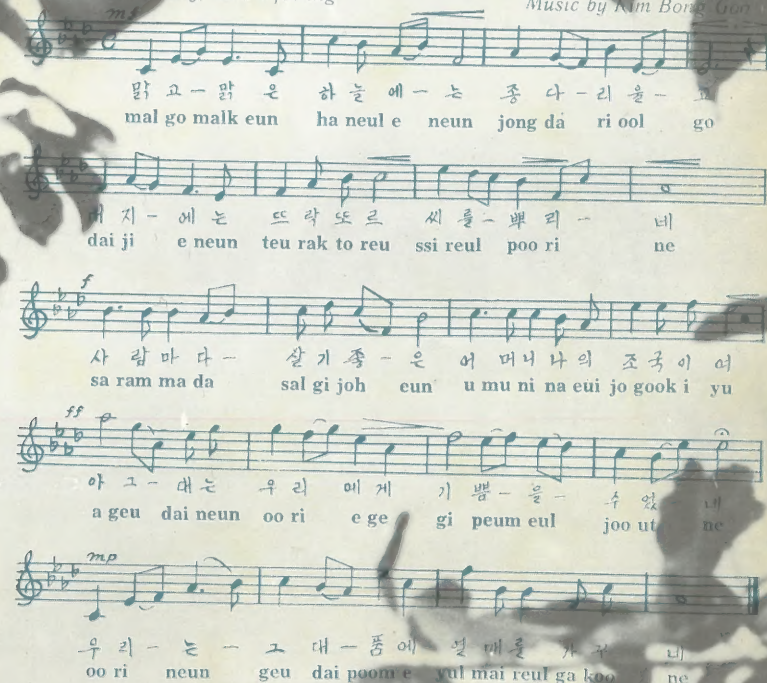


Anything in this issue may be reprinted with due acknowledgement.

어 머 니 조 국 에 U MU NI JOGOOK E

Not too slowly, with a feeling

Words by Kim Byung Doo
Music by Kim Bong Gon



MY DEAR MOTHERLAND

In the blue sky are songs of skylarks,
Humming tractors busy in the field sowing.
This is my motherland, the dear land,
Where everyone is leading a good life.
Oh, you've given us joy,
We will work to bring more fruits to you.

No. 13502



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